



### illed by enemies of justice'

THE FUNERAL yesterday out of her oddly English, mockwhere the bomb went off on Monday, mutilating Rosemary Nelson's body, sending her silver BMW careering into a wall and creating a new martyr for Irish nationalists.

· The cortège started off from her home in Lurgan, Co Armagh, taking the same route as she had on the last journey of her life. The relatives who bore her coffin and the mourners who trudged after it passed over the small hole which was gouged out of the roadway by the blast of the bomb. Scorch marks are visible on the tar

around the indentation. Then they wheeled slowly Grange, past the remains of the wall where the firemen had carried out the terrible task of cutting her dying body out of the

Little bunches of flowers have been deposited at the wall. More bouquets were left

From Ashford Grange the fu-

at her office, one of them proclaiming: "A beautiful woman with a beautiful vision - peace, equality, justice." Another said: "Murdered by the enemies of justice, equality and freedom."

neral passed by Tannaghmore primary school where Sarah Nelson, eight, heard the explosion which left her without a speak for them in public.

DAVID MCKITTRICK

mother Outside the school Sarah's classmates lined both sides of the road as the mourners shuffled past in the cold morning sunshine.

Next along the route came black flags, hung out by residents of the working-class Kil-

mishes with officialdom. Rosemary Nelson was seen not just also as one prepared to go beyand the orthodox legal role and

Which is probably why that bomb was placed under her car with such care and such hate. It is almost certain that in targeting her the loyalist assassins thought they might strengthen the Orange cause in the annual Drumcree marching dispute in

neighbouring Portadown. It is also true that they oppose the Good Friday Agreement and want to bring it down.

wilkie estate in tribute to the But at heart the primary moti- know her as the best mother many of them in their skir- ably raw sectarianism, the desire to strike at the local Catholic and nationalist comas a highly effective solicitor but munity by removing a woman who was fast becoming one of

its foremost advocates. In the face of such hatred, Rosemary Nelson's sons displayed real character and something close to heroism when, inside St Peter's Church, they held their shock and grief in check to speak of their mother.

Eleven-year-old Gavin said proudly: "My mum was a brilliant solicitor and friend, and whenever you were in need of help she was right there by your side. However, we her family

one could ever wish for The priest described her as

a tireless worker and called for an independent inquiry into her death. Outside, those unable to get into the church had no need of such an investigation: they nearly all firmly believe the RUC must have had something to do with it.

Overall the mood was stoical and sombre, with a thirst for vengeance in the air. There had been overnight rioting and petrol-bombing in Portadown involving nationalists, loyalists and police, and one mourner, Councillor Brendan McKenna.

patch. He had earlier been pictured with blood streaming from his eye, telling the cam-

him: 'I was smashed in the face with a baton. He smashed the glasses right into my eye." RUC Assistant Chief Constable Tom Craig said one of his officers had reported accidentally striking Mr McKenna as he sought to defend himself against a person attacking him. Saying the incident would be in-

eras a policeman had struck

the violence on "sheer drunken aggression". Thirty eight officers were

vestigated, Mr Craig blamed

Many of Northern Ireland's politicians are on their way back from St Patrick's Day festivities and political exchanges in Washington, where they took part in meetings but achieved no breakthroughs. There were two killings while they were away.

The next few weeks will bring crucial talks aimed at making the Good Friday Agreement work. The hope will be that Rosemary Nelson's death, rather than sending them back into their trenches, instead spurs them on to cement an agreement which might prevent more funerals like hers. Serious concern, page 2

### Murdoch escaped UK tax bill |Sir Cliff: 'I'm Blair's holy man'

RUPERT MURDOCH'S main By ROGER TRAPP British holding company, Newscorp Investments, has in effect paid no British corporation tax in the past 11 years, despite achieving total profits of £1.4bn in the period, according to a re-

port to be published today. The disclosure in this week's edition of The Economist comes more than three years after an extensive investigation by The

Independent revealed that in the previous 10 years News International, owner of The Times. The Sun and two other national newspapers, earned nearly £1bn in profits (net of operating losses) and had a total tax bill

of £11.74m, or just 1.2 per cent. The report in The Economist shows that tax payments in

rebates in others.

It comes as the Department of Trade and Industry is considering the Monopolies and Mergers Commission's report on the bid for the football club Manchester United by BSkyB,

There is nothing illegal

some years have been offset by response to questions from The Economist, Mr Murdoch's US holding company News Corporation said: "News Corporation and its subsidiaries. including News International, prepares and files tax returns in every jurisdiction in which they do business. The company's tax returns and payments

are reviewed on a regular basis

by relevant tax authorities."

about the group's activities. In

SIR CLIFF RICHARD says he is to be Tony Blair's unofficial "Christian mouthpiece" - helping to bring a more "Christian dimension" to the millennium celebrations in Britain. The Prime Minister and his

wife, Cherie, met Sir Cliff after the Blairs attended one of his concerts at the Royal Albert Hall in London. Mrs Blair is understood to be a long-term fan.

Arts News Editor

Sir Cliff said he had told Mr Blair the millennium festivities should emphasise the Christian nature and include more charitable giving.
"We talked about the spiri-

tual aspect," Sir Cliff told The Independent, "and they were right behind what I was saying.

They were very much in favour of making a spiritual state-

The Prime Minister is marginally disappointed they can't do something spiritual at the Dome. But he did say be was very much in favour of my making a Christian statement. Let's face it, it's very much easier for someone like myself to

make a Christian statement.

The result of the meeting became evident yesterday when the singer announced he would be playing a millennium eve concert in Birmingham, with all the proceeds going to charity.

He said he was not against stars being paid for performing on the night as long as they donated the money to charity.

Leading article.

Review, page 3

### INSIDE THIS SECTION

Benefit may still be taxed Child benefit for the well-off may be taxed in future. ordon Brown suggested the P2

Bedroom generation Children are staying indoors with computers and TVs

New GM food rules Restaurants face fines of up to £5,000 for failing to declare GM food contents

Clinton faces media today Media can question Bill Clinton for first time in a year Foreign P12

Albanians sign deal Kosovo Albanians signed up to the Paris peace agreement without a Serb in sight Foreign P13

Eurocrats face new report Commission faces further purges of its top officials Foreign P14

Cable group reject bid BICC turned dows a £397m takeover bid from Wassall, the venture capital vehicle. Business P16

Outsider wins Gold Cup See More Business, at 16-1, won Cheltenham Gold Cup Sport P28

INSIDE THE REVIEW

Donald Macintyre If Europe becomes more democratic, it could also become too powerful. Comment P3

Absent fathers Deborah Orr believes many men are letting children down Comment P5

ou noure value) £12,623.00. APR 8.4%, Ruther charges may be made

Mark Steel listened to the Lewis vs Holyfield fight in an all-night bagel shop Features P8

Memories of water The scientist who thinks molecules can remember Science P9



BACK PAGE

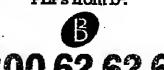




b' has made buying a PEP simple, straightforward and inexpensive. For a jargon-free information pack visit our website or call now, quoting B0619.

33.75. Total charge for credit £2,435.95 (includes a finance facility fee of £70, payable with the first

PEPs from b2.







### IN THE INDEPENDENT TOMORROW

### The definitive guide to all the best sites on the Internet

**MAGAZINE EXCLUSIVE: CALVIN** KLEIN TALKS ABOUT SEX DRUGS AND HEMLINES **PLUS TRAVEL** 

PHILIPHI NSHER, IQEN WALSH, RICHARD WILLIAMS, DAVID AARONOVITCH, DEBORAH ORR, THOMAS SUTCHHIL MILES KANGTON, SUL ARNOUD, ANDRE

### Stock market is more risky than a flutter on the horses

PUNTERS MAKING their way BY CHERRY NORTON home from the Cheltenham Festival may not agree, but a better bet than investing in the stock market, according to

The Which? Guide to Gomand pension-fund managers to study form rather than the Lottery and horse racing, and found that the stock market does not always give the best value for money.

The attitude that gambling is had and investment is good is very perverse as many investments are speculative gambling. The gap between the two is very narrow indeed," said Jonquil Lowe, coauthor of the report. "Informed horse racing is very similar to stock-picking with small companies. With horse racing you are looking at the past form of the horses and working out their ability to win. If you think that their chances of winning are better than the bookies' odds then it is a good invest-

Horse-racing scored more than investing in stocks because people stood to win more money and their initial in-

Experts believe that gamhling in Britain has increased cause it has become more socially acceptable. The latest national centre which exambling, show that two-thirds of always lose," he said. British adults gamble every

Social Affairs Correspondent

count the size of the maximum win relative to the stake, the chance of any win, the size of bling, published today, could a potential loss, and the likeliencourage private investors hood of repeating the gamble

Horse-racing and premium FTSE 100. The guide's au- bonds were given the best thors have evaluated some of overall rating for value for the most popular forms of money. This was followed by gambling, including premium stock-picking for smaller com-bonds, shares, the National penies, traded options and the penies, traded options and the National Lottery. The casino games of roulette and hlack jack were rated as the worst value for money because the odds are stacked against the gamblec

Penny Haigh, 49, from Spakling, Lincolnshire, won the National lottery in March 1996. Her total investment of £316, at £2 per week since the Lottery began, turned into a win of £1,325,202. 'I had no investments in the stock market but enjoyed a weekly flutter, I did not expect to win but all investments are a gamble." she said. Despite her success. Tim Cockerill, managing director of Whitechurch Securities, an independent financial advisors, said: "Even investing your money in high-risk small companies is better than putting it on the horses or the National Lottery because you are investing money in tangible assets rather than gamhling on a chance hit."

National Lottery in 1994 be- sultant psychiatrist, who specialises in gambling, agreed. "Gambling is a form of enterfigures from GamCare, the tainment and should not be seen as an investment. In the ines the social impact of gam- long run the gambler will



Sport, pages 24 and 28 Cheltenham race-goers yesterday. Bookies may be a better bet than the City PA

YESTERDAY

RAIN OR

SHINE...

AN EARTHQUAKE cut the

power supply to more than

1,000 homes in Sydney, officials

The earthquake, described

as "moderate" and measuring

4.7 on the Richter scale, hit

Australia's largest city just

before 1pm on Wednesday and

lasted several seconds. Cen-

tred in Wilton, about 45 miles

south of Sydney, the quake

joited office blocks but there

were no reports of major dam-

said yesterday.

age or injury.

### Middle class faces tax on child benefit

ed that he may tax the child benefit payments of the well-off in future despite dropping the plan from this month's Budget

In a letter leaked to The Inspendent, the Chancellor said: If child benefit is to be raised in future, I believe there is a case - in principle - for higher rate taxpayers to pay tax on it. We will bring forward recommendations for reform in due

Last night the Tories claimed the letter to Tessa Jowell, the Health minister, revealed that: Mr Brown had not abandoned his plans to tax child benefit. They said this would amount to "quadruple whammy" on the middle classes after the Chancellor scrapped mortgage relief and the married comple's allowance and included a new means-tested children's tax credit in his Budget.

.The Treasury insisted the letter, written four days before the Budget, had been overtaken by Mr Brown's announcement of the new tax credit, which will not be paid to people earning more than £38,500 a year.

it scheme works before taxing child benefit, he declined at a post-Budget press conference to rule out imposing tax at a

that Mr Brown dropped the pro-Tony Blair expressed concern that it would alienate "middle England". Treasury officials had warned of administrative problems and that the independent taxation of men and women would be jeopardised. The Tories claimed the let-

ter indicated Mr Brown's future plans, since he would have been well aware of his Budget decisions when it was written.

Jain Duncan Smith, the Tory spokesman on social security, said. "It is now absolutely clear that the Chancellor has no intention of giving up on his pro-posal to tax child benefit."

He said this explained why Labour MPs had watered down



Archy Kirkwood, the Liberal Democrat chairman of the So-deprivation." tial Security Select Committee. which had investigated the issue. Mr Brown admitted this week that Don Touhig, his Parliamentary aide, had been sent There has been speculation a leaked draft of the chair-

man's report. come clean about his future plans," said Mr Duncan Smith. "It seems that he is using the tax credit as a trial run and that welcomed Mr Blair's commit he will tax child benefit at a later stage. He knows where he is

The Tory frontbencher said

strengthen marriage as an institution, which was the single most important factor in remoney will not lift them from poverty but will simply accelerate marriage breakdown and increase welfare dependency,"

The row overshadowed a speech by the Prime Minister to which he pledged an "historic mission" to eliminate child poverty in Britain within 20 ears, promising a £6bn pack-

Setting out his plans for a quiet revolution" to the welfare state, Mr Blair said children were the Government's top priority. Britain's child deprivation levels were "frightening", with almost one in three living in poverty, he said.

The Government's plans would lift 700,000 children out of poverty by the end of this Parliament Being poor should not be a life sentence. We need to break the cycle of disadvantage so that children born into poverty are not condenuned to social exclusion and

- Mr Blair promised: "Our historic aim will be for ours to be the first generation to end child poverty. It will take a generation. It is a 20-year mission, but I believe it can be done if we reform the welfare state and ilies and children.

Martin Barnes, director of the Child Poverty Action Group, ment but said Britain could afford to end child poverty in 10 years rather than 20. "All it requires is the political will."

## BRITAIN TODAY FORECAST

Misles, NW England, Lake Disz, isle of Man: Sunny spells and showers but more generally cloudy this afternoon. A moderate to fresh north-westerly wind. Max temp 9-12C (48-54F).

NE Scotland, Aberdeen, N Isles: Very wandy and cold with sleet and snow showers and only limited sunny breaks. A strong to near-gale force north-ive: ly wind. Max temp 4-7C (39-45F). SE Scotland, Edinburgh: Sunny spells but rain may arrive later this. A moderate to fresh north-westerly wind. Max temp 7-10C (45-50F).

MH & SW Scotland, Glasgow, W Islam: Sunny spells and isolated shower morning. Largely cloudy this afternoon with light rain and bill-snow. A fresh north-westerly wind. Max temp 5-8C [41-46F].

N freiand: Mainly cloudy with light rain spreading eastwards. A fresh north-westerly wind. Max temp 8-11C [46-52F].

Rain and mountain snow in Scotland and Northern Ireland will clear to leave a mix of sunny spells and winny showers. England and Vibles will have a lot of cloud with patchy rain in the north. Sunday will be brighter but there will be showers.

Loydon: A12 Green Man Roundabout, Leytonstone. Major readworks on new lef1 link coad. Until 31st December. Bristol: M5 J18-19. Major Roadworks on Avenmouth Bridge. Until 23rd June 2001 Wannickshine: M42 Between J10 Terrworth services and J5 Sutton Coldield. Roadworks and contration. Until 23rd April. South Yorkshine: M1 Between J34 Tinsley Visduct (A6109) & J34 Ti

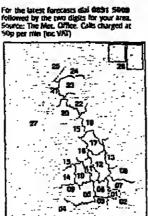
Cheltenham. Closed due to madworks inbound. Diversions in place, Unit 1st June. Co.Antrim: A1 Kingsway, Dunmurray. Roadworks, various June restrictions, Unit

1st August.
Derbyshtre: A6 Between Derby Southern Bypass (A50) and Shardow Road round-about. East of Alvasion. Controllow for work

### to 6.27am to 6.11am to 6.14am to 6.21am to 6.05am to 6.13am to 6.10am 6.34gm 6.18pm 6.21pm 6.28pm 6.11pm 6.20pm 6.17pm Coldest (day): Lao 7C (45F) Wettest: Aultbea 7.4 mm Samplest: Mablethorpe 7.8 hrs For 24hrs to 2pm Thursday London Lowestoft Manchester Margace Morecarribe Newquay Nonwich Oxford Ross-on-wye Salcombe Scarborough Shrewsbury Southend Southport

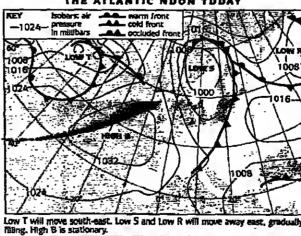
SUN & MOON

WEATHERLINE



### THE WORLD EUROPE NOON TODAY

THE ATLANTIC NOON TODAY



THE WORLD YESTERDAY

### 'Concern' over **RUC** handling of Nelson case

mission for Northern Ireland has expressed "serious concern" about the way the Royal Ulster Constabulary investigated complaints made by the murdered solicitor Rosemary Nelson, Mo Mowlam disclosed last night

The Secretary of State for Northern Ireland said in a Commons written answer that the commission registered its concern in its annual report published yesterday after raising it with herself and the RUC Chief Constable, Sir Ronnie Flanagan, last summer.

As a result, the Chief Constable ordered further investigations, the results of which are being forwarded to the Director of Public Prosecutions.

With pressure mounting on peace process, Bill Chinton, Tony Blair and Bertie Ahern, the Irish Prime Minister, will today publish an unprecedented joint declaration which puts pressure on the Unionist leader David Trimble to compromise over the demands for arms decommissioning by the IRA before Good Friday.

The three leaders' statefailure to reach a breakthrough in cross-party talks at the White House over the St Patrick's Day celebrations.

Gerry Adams, the Sinn Fein president, yesterday reinforced his warning that he could not deliver on IRA decommission-

THE POLICE Complaints Com- BY COLIN BROWN AND ANDREW MARSHALL in Washington

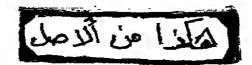
> ing, but said there was a possibility of progress if be and Mr Trimble, first minister-designate in the new Northern Ireland Assembly could "jump

> Mr Adams said Mr Trimble wanted "an event" to show that the IRA was prepared to disarm; he wanted more weapons than the Loyalist Volunteer Force had given up; he wanted it to be done in a clear and visible way; and he wanted detonators, explosives and timers given up as well as small arms "I couldn't deliver that." Mr Adams said, and Mr Trimble

> knew it. "He knows it in his head, he knows it in his heart." Pressure on Sinn Fein would not work, Mr Adams said. "Sim Fein doesn't have to buy its ticket twice," he said.

Today's joint communique, issued in Washington, London and Duhlin, will take some of the pressure off Mr Adams by making only passing reference to decommissioning, saying General John de Chastelain, head of the ment is an attempt to rescue decommissioning body, "conthe peace process after the tinues his vital work to achieve

And the communiqué concludes: "The prize is very great indeed and it is now in sight. We have come too far to go back now. Let us finish the task between now and Good



AVERAGE MINUTES PER DAY WITH MEDIA

six and seven-year-olds

SCREEN ENTERTAINMENT IN A CHILD'S ROOM

### HILLS WITH LEAVE SWILL e class tax on

### Denefit GRAT

Africanisty Callyry d for second lines. teriburi auf in vies THE RESERVE WATERLESS i Birah sake di karangan di Prise ornagenter pieter in ter

MISTED IVE

words out the con-

mcern' over

garge was the

W Market S.

San arangan et et gy sometry of the con-

garde to the te agent hadfult to t المعارات والمعلق المعلق all and stage of the second of

المراجع فالمهيمين

LANGE THE FOR

B-4 · 2. 的人是不是一个人 The state of the s

· ·

· 新成 医直接性 500 100.1 5

AND THE PERSON NAMED IN

or water

Maria a com

grandent to the

and a survey of the same CONTRACTOR NOTICE San San A

Marine Street Street And the waste of

The law (see )

· Salari

STATE .

MAGAZINE

fine Covernment of

of the constitution in the sales

a fuch was there

trate, and outstill found

then the proprietty be

and the state of t

though will not lift then

The state of the bar before

v. Oversinder

∵ ಗಿರ್ಬರ್ ಚಿತ್ರಾಕ್ಷ್ಮ

Plantak d in the second

344E2

at houses

Contract of

The water

The Alberta Company

who brown

### stuck in their rooms and glued to TV 34 RHYS WILLIAMS AND

ANDREW BUNCOMBE

A GENERATION of British children are locking themselves away in their bedrooms where they are increasingly turning to television and computer games as their sole sources of entertainment, an extraordinary new survey has found. The indoor migration - away

from traditional outdoor games - has largely been prompted by parental fears about safety. Busy parents unable to spend as much time as they wish with their children - or to guarantee their safety if they are not with them - consider computers and television an easy option. According to the report by the London School of Economics, many children also feel they have no alternative source of entertainment outside their bedroom walls.

author of the report, Young People, New Media, "but the today more important.

Today's children are indeed the media rich. One in five has their own VCR, two-thirds play on computer games while 68 per cent have a personal stereo.

technology is the trend towards ing class families).

is unpoliced viewing. Nearly a third of children ignore the 9pm watershed, despite 82 per cent of parents considering it a very good idea". Many parents insist they enforce the water-, shed, but some children gave a told researchers he drew the up at about 9.30 or 10 or something, and then we just watch until they come up and tell us

perhaps plays on the comput-

"Children prefer to get out," said Dr Sonia Livingstone, a colack of alternatives makes the media-rich environment most of them can enjoy in the home

Coupled with such access to

the bedroom being the sole private space for children. While teenagers sulking in their bedrooms is nothing new, the study finds that children from the age of nine are turning to their bedrooms as a place to socialise. Most striking are the two-thirds of all children who have a television in their rooms (a figure which rises to nearly three-quarters among work-One consequence of chil-

dren watching television alone

to switch it off... at 11, 11.30." Lisa Wallis, from Wantage in Oxfordshire, echoes the concerns of many parents interviewed in the research. She has two daughters, Poppy, seven, and Molly, four, both of whom enjoy playing computer games. "To be fair, they are not too bad," Mrs Wallis says, "Poppy er for around three hours a week. She also likes playing out

that is sad." Dr Mark Griffiths, a psychologist at the Nottingham Trent University, said there was a series of problems associated with excessive use of computer games. Children could become genuinely addicted, then display the classic symptoms of withdrawal and obsession. Studies in the United States had shown that in extreme cases, children as young - or as old - as six, seven and

in the garden. But there is a eight were wetting themselves half of the five hours a day they their child, compared with 56 may be on the cusp of a signifconcern about letting them out. or defecating rather than stop- devote to the media, today's per cent who felt similarly se- icant transition. "Overall, the ine at 9pm, his son in the next I think it's a shame that they are ping playing. "They are so enchildren are somewhat reluction said: "They tell us to go not allowed to grow up in the grossed in their games that tant couch potatoes. When way that we did. They are missthey will not stop for anything," ing out on a lot of things and he said.

Parents often feel helpless. The survey found that once chilit is impractical for parents to try and intervene and limit their use of computers and televisions. As a result, parents believe they are increasingly broadcasters and regulators. This is especially true in regard to television.

But although watching television accounts for more than they live are "very safe" for Livingstone believes Britain

asked what their idea of a good day was, only one in seven said that they would turn to TV. If they had the chance, they would dren reached their early teens rather get out of the house and go to the cinema (41 per cent).

see friends (39 per cent) or play sport (35 per cent). But fears about children's safety - heightened by reports dependent on the judgement of of abductions and child mur- a book. In fact, the report sugders – are preventing parents from letting their children out to play. Only 11 per cent of par- 15 minutes a day (a figure that ents say that the streets where

cure in the neighbourhood in image of books is poor," she which they grew up. In the cities, children find themselves imprisoned by violence - in rural areas, by isolation.

Our generation of couch potato kids,

As use of PCs proliferates, reading skill are expected to suffer. The 36 per cent of children who have access to a PC in the home say that they are now twice as likely to use that as a source of information than gests that while children still read a book for an average of has not altered in 40 years), Dr

said "They are widely seen as the Early Learning Centre, said when they grew up, the boring, old-fashioned, frustrat- said parents needed to en- most important thing for them ing and altogether too much ef- courage their children in other fort. We might be at a pivotal

moment when children will inevitably turn to other sources for information." Dr Richard Woolfson, a child psychologist and fellow of the British Psychology Society, said he was troubled that children were increasingly staying in-

doors, "Social interaction is a with their children - projects, painting visits to the library." very important part of development. You cannot do that stuck in front of a colourful screen no matter how stimu-

lating that screen may be," Dr Woolfson said. Jenni Smith, a consultant to

activities. "You have to set the agenda. You can't leave it to them," she said. "If a child is given the choice between doing nothing and playing with a computer game, they will always choose the computer game. But there are lots of other things that parents can do

When parents were asked to crime as a concern. choose which change in society they would most like to see, the

said "more emphasis on family life". Most of their children would be "a happy family life". with a "good education" the

largest number, 63 per cent,

Social Grade

15 AND 16-YEAR-OLDS WITH A PC WITH CD ROM AT HOME

second most important aspect. The survey also found that the biggest concern to parents was the threat of drugs. A total of 51 per cent of parents said they were concerned about their children abusing drugs, while 47 per cent worried about their child's job prospects.

> Deborah Orr, Review. page 5

Thirty-nine per cent cited

### JC handling . Nelson case A the second of Sept of The Park of the Garage a commence of

Lara Croft: A fantasy woman, clothed or not

### \$1.1m to keep Internet heroine's clothes on IS ONE MILLION dollars enough

money to stop Lara Croft, the improbably pneumatic guntoting cult heroine of the Tomb Raider computer games, taking

It should be, according to Core Design, creator of the heroine who has become an icon to thousands of teenagers. The Derby-based company is spring an American website for \$1.1m (£687,500), <nuderaidercom>, which featured hun-

BY CHARLES ARTHUR **Technology Editor** 

pictures of Ms Croft in the

flesh, so to speak. In fact, Core Design would like to rid the Internet of all pictures purporting to show naked versions of Ms Croft - who is a Cheltenham-educated Egyptologist, according to her myth-

There may be thousands,

The writ against the owner of <nuderaider.com>, Joel Williams, and the company whose computers held the website, threatens to bring a huge

"naked" offer 14,600 web pages. threat infringes freedom of ex- for the fans to express their love dreds of computer-generated But the <nuderaidercom> site pression, and that Core Design was different, because it con- is biting the hands that feed it: tained game players' own ren- since the site was launched in

being a come-on to a pornog- visited by 6.5 million weh

"This site was created for the fans to showcase THEIR fan- couldn't care less about this tasy artwork," he says in a sage on the site (which no

and fascination for their

favourite fantasy woman. "Yes, the artwork was of an ditions of Ms Croft, rather than 1998, he claims, it has been adult nature and for mature audiences only; but the only peosurfers who are eager fans of ple who visited this site were FANS of the GAME. If you didn't play the game, you

web site " Whether Core Design can representations of Ms Croft - said one message. including the naked ones.

A spokeswoman said: "We own the copyright on all forms of her image; if somebody wants to alter it, whether it's to put a cigar in her hand or take her clothes off, they have to get our permission."

Mr Williams has won considerable support from viewers: "They should hire you guys.

as a quick search suggests – the lawsuit for breach of copyright. kinger carries the pictures). We win the case will hinge on You've done more to promote key words of "Lara Croft" and Mr Williams claims that the provided the FREE ARCHIVE whether it owns the rights to all their game then you needed to,"

Core Design added: "We don't want Lara to be associated with pornographic material. We have a large number of young fans and we don't want them stumbling across the pictures when they do a general search for Tomb Raider - or finding sites which are linked to other pornographic pictures. It's completely irresponsible."



A NOTEBOOK THAT WON'T BREAK YOUR ARM.

OR THE BANK.

to double the amount of memory - 64MB SDRAM.

It's light in weight and light on the pocket. But it's built

with Dell quality, packs the power of an Intel® Celeton<sup>th</sup>

Processor 300MHz and even comes with a free upgrade

Call the world's largest direct PC manufacturer\* now.

And laugh all the way to the bank.



DELL INSPIRON™ 3500 c380 XT

• Mobile Intel® Celeron™ Processor 3000MHz 13.3" XGA (1029x768) TFT Screea

(WITH FREE MEMORY UPGRADE)

Modular 24 x CO-ROM and 3.5" Floppy Disk Drives

£1.199 (£1449.95 INC DEL & VAT)

**DOUBLE YOUR** MEMORY FOR FREE

OFFER CLOSES 22ND MARCH 99

0870 1524603 BAM TO 6PM SAT 10AM TO 5PM SUN

BETWEEN SAM & 9PM WEEKDAYS.

23.75. Total charge for credit 52,435.95 (includes a finance facility fee of £70, payable with the first payable w

www.dell.co.uk

### New GM food rules 'a con trick'

HOW TO DINE OUT ON A GM MENU

FOOD OUTLETS from restaurants to hot-dog stands could tace fines of up to £5,000 for failor soya under tough new powers being brought in today by the Government

Around 125,000 restaurants and fast-food outlets will be given six months to prepare for the introduction of the new rules. Supermarkets will be re-

quired from today to ensure that maize and soya products made since last September are properly labelled. Jeff Rooker, the Agriculture

minister, said that by including the catering industry, Britain was leading the rest of Europe, which has limited the European Union regulations to supermarkets and shops.

Environmental campaigners branded government regulations on labelling genetically modified food a "con trick on the public" after Mr Rooker confirmed that it could not stop all GM contamination.

He explained that the new powers did not cover the labelling of GM tomato paste, currently on sale in Britain, or GM The Government is determined

By COLIN BROWN Chief Political Correspondent

ing to declare their foods con- and the emulsifier legithin. He tain genetically modified flour said that if the tomato paste was used in food outlets such as pizza restaurants he believed the owners would have a "moral obligation" to inform

Mr Rooker added that derivatives were not included as it was virtually impossible to conduct scientific tests to verify their presence in food stuffs.

Paul Tyler, the Liberal Democrat spokesman, warned: "The Government must not use a half-baked labelling policy as a fig leaf for not having a more general policy on GM food. If the Government cannot guarantee products are not free of GM then labelling will not be of any use."

A spokesman for Greenpeace told Mr Rooker at the launch of the regulations: "You are conning the public by saying there is consumer choice because these regulations are . going to be irrelevant."

Mr Rooker replied: "I don't accept this is fudging at all ... derivatives such as soya oil that consumers should be able



Food vendors say the new rules are a recipe for confusion and will be impossible for them to follow

rants, cafés and takeaways and not just that available from supermarkets."

Some restaurateurs believe

to choose whether or not to eat them to police, because of the a vegetable stallholder by will be covered, if its bread tomers who ask whether their genetically modified foods. This difficulty identifying whether Smith Square where the Minincludes foods sold in restaubread or other products contain istry of Agriculture Fisheries GM foods. Others face confu- and Food has its beadquarsion over whether they are ters. Fresh vegetables are not covered by the new laws. covered by the regulations, but

"How are we going to know the corner sandwich shop serv-

vealed in The Independent, restaurants and fast-food outlets

Andu Blackmore

food contains GM maize or soya. Under the new rules, first re- Consumer standards officers will carry out checks, and firms face prosecution for mismwill not be required to include: forming the public. Pre-packed GM labelling on their memis, but foods, such as sandwiches in the laws will be impossible for whether it's GM or not?" said ing the ministry civil servants they will have to inform cus-packets, will be exempt.

ference between a cherry

tomato and a big beefsteak

tomato is just like the difference

between a normal Arabidopsis

plant and those that are mutant

[for these genes], "Professor

Meyerowitz said. "So there are

ways to make fruit hieger with-

out understanding the process.

But what we're trying to do is

### race crime

BY JASON BENNETTO Crime Correspondent

RACIST CRIMINALS in Eltham. the part of south east London where Stephen Lawrence was stabbed to death, are to be targeted by specialist police officers under a new film scheme.

The officers will be drafted into the area to collect intelligence on suspected race attackers in four areas across London, including the borough of Greenwich where Stephen was stabbed to death in 1993. Chief Inspector Alan West,

who is co-ordinating the project, said: "Stephen Lawrence has provided a catalyst, but not the sole catalyst, for activity against racist crime. Race crime is very much on our agenda."

Three race intelligence officers are also to be appointed across London following damning criticisms of the Metropolitan force in the Macpherson report into the Lawrence case.

The initiatives are part of the work being carried out by Scotland Yard's specialist race crimes unit under Deputy Assistant Commissioner John Grieve.

The new team's officers will "collate intelligence information, identify and target race crime offenders and develop strategies for operations de-signed to culminate in successful prosecutions." a Home Office spokeswoman said.

The scheme was one of 11 announced yesterday by Paul Boateng, the Home Office Minister, in a £5m initiative to tackle crime bot spots.

Other schemes being run by eight forces include the targeting of young offenders in Cardiff; crack cocaine dealers in Hackney, east London; burglars and car thieves in Stockport, Greater Manchester: vandals and bad neighbours in Humberside; bandlers of stolen goods in Kent; and thefts of farm equipment in rural areas of Northumbria. The money will be spent

over the next three years, starting from April Another 10 schemes will be run later

( 3

### New way to engineer plants' genes 'to benefit man'

SCIENTISTS HAVE discovered a new way of creating genetically modified plants which promises to produce dramatic:≥lly different forms of flowers, first and vegetables.

The researchers have identified the key genetic mecha- ating the potential to develop nism used by all flowering plants - from cabbages to tulips that controls the developnient of everything above the

BY STEVE CONNOR Science Editor

roots. It means it will be possible to engineer the genetics of plants at a more fundamental level than is possible now, cremore intricate flower beads, larger fruits and shorter stalks.

Elliot Meyerowitz, profes-sor of biology at the California in the body are derived.

Institute of Technology (Caltech), said his team has located three genes that determine how cells divide within the vital part of a plant called the apical meristem, which is where new plant tissue is generated. Botanists liken the meristems of plants to the "stem cells" of animals, which are the mother cells from which all other cells

highly specific patterns to make plant is destined to grow. leaves and stems and flowers. Everything you see above ground arises from these cells," said Professor Meyerowitzd.

The genes identified by the journal Science, control the communication network used

"[Meristem cells] divide in with the basic plan by which a means the researchers are in more favourable traits. "The dif-When the scientists elimi-

nated the genes from an Arabidoosis weed, which normally grows six inches high with a thin, fragile stem and a few team, and published in the white flowers on the end, the plant grew a much thicker stem and mutant flowers with extra by plants to make tissues, en-abling the scientists to tinker reproductive organs, such as mutate certain plants of human But what we're trying to stamens and carpels. "This benefit to create ones with understand the process."

control of the genetic mechanism that governs various characteristics of a plant. Since the effect is genetic, the mutated characteristics are passed along to future generations," said a spokesman for Caltech.

Professor Meyerowitz said the discovery could be used to

YOUR HOME IS AT RISK IF YOU DO NOT KEEP UP REPAYMENTS ON A MORTGAGE OR OTHER LOAN SECURED ON IT. Halifex pic represents only the Halifex Financial Services Marketing Group which is regulated by the Personal Investment Authority for life assurance, pensions and unit trusts.

15 MINUTE MORTGAGE PROMISE

You don't have to make a decision in 15 minutes, but we will.

In a quarter of an hour you can get the promise of a mortgage - and a very enviable one as our rates are extremely attractive - you'll know how much you can borrow and how much you can spend. You'll know if you can put in an offer on a house immediately and none of this will cost you a penny.

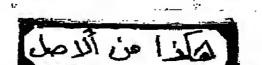
2 YEAR DISCOUNTED VARIABLE 3.99% 4.1% APR

CALL 0800 20 30 49

Lines open 8am-8pm 7 days a week or drop into your local branch.

Get a little extra help.

Where do you look for the leading cordless phones? The BT shop. Where else. BT Freestyle 90 Was 259.99 254.99 Binatone Eurotel 1500 Instore Price £89.99 **Voucher Price** £79.99 Save £10 oucher Price Saving NEW Samsung SPR5150 digital cordiese phone with answering machine **BT Quartet 2015** £139.99 £99.99 NEW BT Synergy 1500 digital cordless phone with answering machine £149.99 The BT shop Call in for prices you can trust For your nearest store call Freefone 0800 400 004



Civila Cata Statement

The first of the challenged London As partie and deposit from the resident A training at the control of the late of the late.

to other files. the terms of the t Control of the torning

to be a seculating the pro-

.... i villoring

there are the time of the Ma.

expended they in the Mac

..... See the State of in the appoint

handist race

Control Deputy As

ं विकास

and distribu

of a safet great

20.00

100000

75,000,75

48.00

10.00

1.00 taxo

1.000.00

10.0

. "No 5" C

21.15

Page Personal

Prince ...

Application of the

المستقادين والمناب

CAMP CATE NO.

Ke

The Charles

### Hospital 'gambled on heart girl's life'

A WOMAN described yester- By JEREMY LAURANCE day how a hospital took an "unacceptable gamble" with her daughter's life, by moving her from the intensive care unit where she was on a lifesupport machine to a neighbouring hospital to allow the unit to prepare for a visit by the Secretary of State for Health.

Michelle Cummings, whose daughter Charlotte was born in March 1987 with multiple heart defects, told the public inquiry into the Bristol baby deaths that her daughter was recovering from heart surgery at the Bristol Royal Infirmary in June 1988 when the decision to move her was made. She was told it was necessary because of an impending visit by Kenneth Clarke, the then health secretary, and Edwina Currie, the former health minister.

The ministers were due to open a new intensive care unit at the infirmary and the existing one was being closed, although it was unclear yesterday why Charlotte could not have been transferred directly to the new unit.

Mrs Cummings said: "They took her off the life-support machine and, while hand-ventilating her, took her by ambulance to the intensive care unit at the children's hospital but they didn't know we were coming." Her voice faltered as she deor the baby unit, so her daughter ended up on the bed of a child who had been taken to theatre for a tousillectomy. Although Chariotte recovered from that,

she died eight months later. The inquiry panel was shown a document relating to Charlotte's transfer to the children's hospital with the words "arrived unannounced as knew I had been deceived." usual" on it. The inquiry has al-

Health Editor

ready heard from earlier witnesses of problems at the infirmary which go far beyond the failings of the two surgeons, James Wisheart and Janardan General Medical Council's investigation last year.

Mrs Cummings, 32, is a leading spokeswoman for the Bristol Surgeons' Support Group, which is campaigning to restore the reputation of the two doctors whom the group says have been unfairly penalised for the shortcomings of others. "We believe that Charlotte received the best possible care from Mr Wisheart and his team that was available at the time. He's an incredibly gentle man and extremely dedicated to the fam-lies and children in his care."

Earlier, Malcolm Curnow, a leading figure in the Bristol Children's Heart Action Group which campaigned for the pub-lic inquiry, described how his one-year-old daughter Verity died after an operation which he had been told was low risk.

Weeks after the operation in 1990 he discovered that doctors considered the only hope was a heart-lung transplant. He said he was "devastated" the information had been kept from him. He told the inquiry that if he had scribed how there was no bed or known the true risks he would life-support machine for Char-never have consented to the oplotte in the intensive care unit eration. "I feel that consent was obtained fraudulently." Eight years later, he saw a

news item on television about the GMC case which showed pictures of Mr Dhasmana. He had earlier been assured that Mr Dhasmana was not involved in an internal inquiry into the hospital, "It was at that point I knew I had been lied to, and I The inquiry continues.



### Second-hand bargains tempt half the nation to become thrifty shoppers

BRITAIN HAS become a nation of thrifty consumers and bargain hunters. Half the population buys second-hand goods such as furniture, clothing and toys, double the number of 10 years ago, according to new research.

A survey of 1,000 people in England, Scotland and Wales, found that those in the South of England were more likely to buy second-hand goods than those in the North or the

"The rise in second-hand sales over the last 10 years has been fuelled by the arrival of new methods of selling imported from abroad, namely the arrival of free ads and car chairman of Loot, the classified

BY CHERRY NORTON Social Affairs Correspondent

advertisements paper, who commissioned the independent research, Mr Landau believes that the arrival of classified auctions via the Internet and telephone will further expand the second-hand market.

Consumer experts said that along with the increased convenience of buying secondhand goods there is a growing consciousness that people should not throw things away as readily as they used to.

"We are encouraged to recycle rubbish and this has gen-Ms Keane The market could expand. erated a feeling that we ought to be preserving things," said boot sales," said David Landau; Sue Keane, a consumer psy-respondents said they would chologist. "The day of the disconsider buying second-hand clothing. Of the 36 per cent who

posable toaster or hair-dryer has gone."

The numbers of people buying recycled goods varied according to region. Only 39 per cent of those in the North-west of England bought used goods compared to 57 per cent in the South-west and 53 per cent in the South-east.

"Although people in the North tend to earn lower incomes than those in the South, the cost of living is less and overall they have more disposable income and a better lifestyle so they may not feel the need to buy used goods," said

Some 62 per cent of the survey's

goods in the future. A third of bought second-hand furniture, people buying second-hand nearly a quarter of all their furgoods are buying more than miture was second-hand.

people of all ages and backgrounds were buying secondmost likely to buy them, compared with 38 per cent of people aged 65 and over. The increase in buying and selling used goods was greater among people aged 15 to 24 than any

other age group. The most popular secondhand purchase was cars, followed by furniture and furnishing, then electrical goods. Nearly a quarter of those surveyed bought second-hand

they did five years ago. Pat Cicceri, a nutritionist
The research showed that from London, said that she was both a buver and a seller. "I use free ads and car-boot hand goods. Some 62 per cent sales and have most recently of people aged 25 to 34 were sold items because I have moved flat. 1 sell household items and car parts and mostly buy car parts as my husband builds cars and collects antique tools. I get some great deals because they are almost new, yet I save on the VAT which makes these items very

> expensive," she said. Charity shops, local or free advertisements, and car-boot sales were the most popular places to buy and sell second-

The main reasons given for avoiding high street shops were saving money (58 per cent) and finding unusual items (36 per cent). Nearly a third said they believed goods should be recycled.

Nearly one-fifth of those interviewed said they bought second-hand goods for fun. "Second-hand goods are great value for money. I sell furniture and soft furnishing which seem popular," said Ruby Tucker, 68. from Nottingham. "My daughter also huys and sell through the classifieds. The best bargain we've had was a set of pine furniture which my daughter was able to get for a very reasonable price. We always seem to find what we are looking for and it is great fun," she said.





Egypt	Helnan Dahab	BB	7	6 May - 2 Jun	Gatwick	£304
	Luxor	BB·	14	6 May - 26 May	Manchester	£335
	Nile Jewel Cruise	FB.	7	27 May - 23 Jun	Manchester	£367
Kenya	Southern Pakns	НВ	7	1 May - 23 May	Manchester	£45
	Amboseli Safari and Bamburi Beach	FB/H8	14	30 May - 27 Jun	Garwick	£734
Far East	Cha-am	RO	14	l May - 30 Jun	Heathrow .	£474
	Banglok, Cha-am	RO	14	I May - 30 Jun	Heathrow	£594
	Belli	BB	14	i May - 16 Jun	Heathrow	£614
Caribbean	St Kitts	RO - ·	. 7	May - II Jun	Gatwick	£46
	Antigua	RO	14	17 May - 30 Jun	Gatwick	£64
	Barbados	Al	7	l May - 26 Jun	Gatwick	£714
Indian Oce	an Sri Lanka	BB	12	I May - 30 May	Heathrow	£634
	Maldives	BB	14	30 May - 30 Jun	Gatwick	£721

CREDIT CARD BOOKING LINE

INSURANCE

To get a great deal on your Hayes and larvis summer holiday, hurry down to your local Thomas Cook shop or book by phone or see Teletext page 268.

Thomas Cook

Don't just book it. Thomas Cook it.

**EGYPT** 

IDERIGINAL S SCOTTISH WIDOWS





L'Homme Passant la Porte' being unveiled in Chelsea Harbour in central London, where the Design Centre is playing host for three months to a group of sculptures by the leading French artist, Jean Robert Ipoustéguy

### Anti-adoption culture' to be investigated

THE WATCHDOG body for locals. By ANDREW GRICE authorities is set to investigate. Political Editor criticism that councils are re luctant to allow children in care be adopted.

The Audit Commission said yesterday than an inquiry into adoption was being considered following requests from MPs. David Davis, chairman of the entires to just 2,000 a year. Commons Public Accounts Committee, wrote to the commission after The Independent revealed that ministers plan to act over the "anti-adoption culture" of Britain's social workers.

Mr Davis asked Andrew Foster, the commission's controller, to probe the "dreadfully poor resuits of keeping children in care, and the enormous variation in the levels of adoption in

different authorities." Local authorities spend \$2.25bn a year on services for children. Although 50,000 are in their has fallen from 21,000 in the sev-This issue has huge impli-

cations for social services costs, and even greater consequences servative MP for Haltemprice and Howden. He said an urgent investigation by the commission into local authority pracgovernment action and policy.

Mr Davis welcomed the decision by a cabinet committee on the family, chaired by Jack Straw, the Home Secretary, to lamnch a review of the adoption laws. Mr Davis believes social workers use existing rules, saying that children should be reunited with their natural parents where possible, as an excuse to avoid adoptions, even though there is often little prospect of them returning

Julian Brazier, organiser of an all-party group of MPs which supports adoption, told the commission that 24,000 of the 50,000 children being "looked place for a child to grow after" by local authorities had in a caring, loving family."

Most natural parents who took children back from care successfully did so within six months; very few young people returned home if they had been in care for more than 18

"There is a large pool of children who would benefit from being adopted, while the taxpayer would benefit from a considerable cost saving," he

dren to go to prison; those who 38 per cent of young offenders and 23 per cent of adult pris-

fibn per annum, and it can clearly be seen that the care system accounts for a substantial proportion of it," said

Last night Mr Brazier welcomed the Cabinet's initiative and said his all-party group would keep up the pressure on ministers to bring in a new Adoption Act before the next general election. "This is not about party politics," said Mr Brazier, Tory MP for Canterbury. "The top priority is the welfare of the children. The best place for a child to grow up is

### Rod Hull falls to his death

BY PAUL MCCANN Media Editor

ROD HULUS most famous victim, Michael Parkinson, led the tributes vesterday after news broke that the 63 year-old puppeteer had fallen from the roof of his home and died.

Hull, who became famous in puppet, Emu, was adjusting the television aerial on the roof of his home in Winchelsea, East Sussex, to get better reception of Manchester United's European Cup match on Wednesday night.

His agent, Laurie Mansfield, said there remained some doubt over the details of the accident: "We're not a hundred per cent certain what happened but what we do know is that he was watching the football. The picture was bad and he went up on the roof to adjust it and fell off. What they're not too sure about is the possibility that be might have had a beart attack, either while be was up there or after he fell."

Mr Mansfield had been with Hull on Tuesday after the star had been in London to attend the first night of a West End play. "We had been talking about plans for the summer. He was planning to go out on the road again with Emu. We also had interest from TV companies to bring him back to



Rod Hull with Emu: He died fixing a TV aerial

television." Michael Parkinson said yesterday: "I am very sad to hear of Rod's death. He was a very charming, intelligent and sensitive man - quite unlike the Emu. The Emu was the dark side of Rod's personality, and very furmy, provided it was not on top of you."

Hull was working as a children's entertainer on Australian television when he found the Emu puppet in a props curboard. He returned to the UK in 1970 and at the height of his popularity had his own television series.

But his career floundered in the late Eighties and in 1994 be was declared bankrupt Obituary, Review, page 6

### IN BRIEF

Judges discuss Noye's appeal KENNETH NOYE'S appeal against extradition to Britain for questioning over the M25 "road rage" murder in 1996 was heard by Spain's highest court yesterday. A panel of 12 judges from the Pleno de la Audiencia Nacional, Madrid's supreme court, discussed the case behind closed doors yesterday morning.

Four guizzed over attack on youth

TWO YOUTHS, aged 16 and 17, have been arrested along with a 21-year-old man and a 20-year-old woman after an assault on a black teenager in the West Midlands. David Virgo, 19, was attacked as he left a chip shop in Blackheath. His condition is said to be improving.

Porsche turbos crash-death case

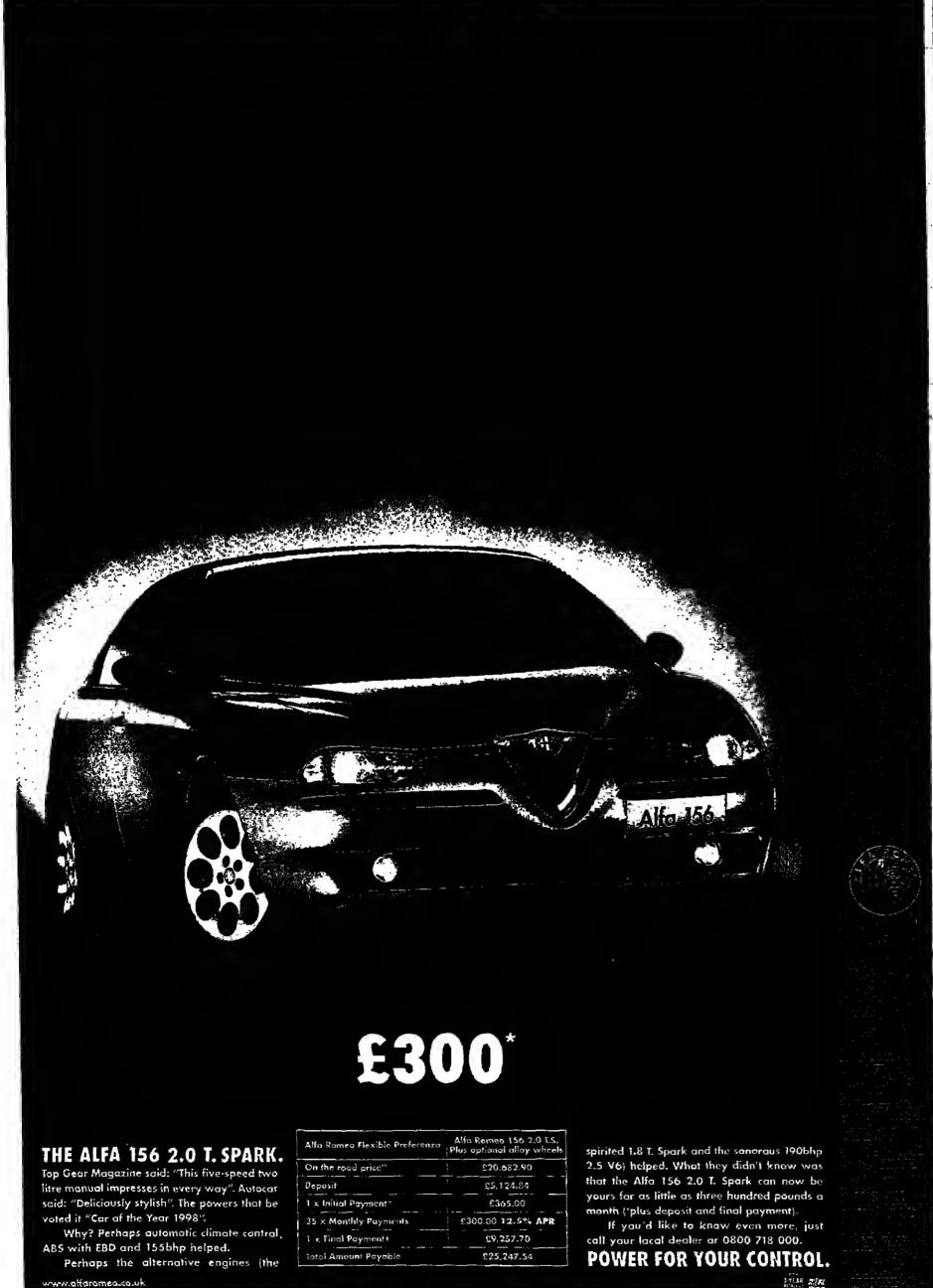
RAYMOND BOYD, 35, and Stephen Shaddick, 36, both of Stirling, pleaded not guilty yesterday at Reading Crown Court to causing the death of Harry Lucy, 82, by dangerous driving in July when their Porsche 911s collided with Mr Lucy's car in Berkshire. They were released on bail until 15 June.

#### Man held over arson deaths

A MAN charged with seven counts of murder over an arson attack on a house in east London was remanded in custody until 26 March when he appeared in court yesterday. Stratford magistrates' court ordered that the man not be named because of the fear of public disorder.

#### Council worker steals Portakabin

MAGISTRATES IN Liverpool yesterday sentenced an electrician to 150 hours' community service after be admitting steeling a Portakabin from his workplace. Billy Mitchell was also sacked by his employer, Liverpool Council.



a 10/3/99. Offer evaluable on cars ordered between 15/03/99 and 30/06/99. The APR shows is smaller to the exem elasinistration for all ESS. Spaintes an option to purchase fee of £25. There is an option to return the which and not pay the Final Payment, subject to the valide net invaring exceeded an (12,000 per comm in this example) and being in seed condition. Excess milests charges may apply at 10p per mile. Minimum deposit 10%. Credit evaluable to anyone aged 18 or ever, subject to st amount be used in conjunction with any attention of the Agent and Art Remot Research Services, P.O. Box 17509, Edinburgh and Art Remot Research Services, P.O. Box 17509, Edinburgh and Art Remot Research Services, P.O. Box 17509, Edinburgh and Remot Research Services, P.O. Box 17509, Edinburgh and Remot Remot Remot Remot Remot Remot Remot Remoted Services, P.O. Box 17509, Edinburgh Remoted R

powers of order for at few for

See al. Printing back from the

Stored Sectional parents to

A sept to the Continue of

: lectore the as

The su

751 (at Case

district the a IV send

and the second second

THE INDEPENDENT

behilter Laurai Print Littin .. the state of the s

The state of the s the cast the mote than I Tractic is a large politic british in who would bent tractic adopted which A. CHARLES . St. STREET, has hope ingh ME MERCHANICALLY the special party of the property of the special party of the special pa Mr Paris, Can Mr. Greener said young pa-ple in a visit care were 30 mg for Hallenburger the said attackers there is the then other de be the comme i kultumite prac the state of come of the state ise extremely Co. of young of round ftenfeiteffet freitite. MANUAL APPLY LANGE OF the server the steel diner resultation chaired by A.c.s. 11th par continue and to were Sentrateurs, to the control that the con-

) "o"i: accounts for 2 sh programme of a sal and the same of the car. staffing rules, you Mr Brezierus ron should be to and the Capital and theit einfremge of and sur E thereigh, an St the state of the programme d mandant : : ve i hang make e in inflame little them retired. men of Miles a fact metters. Land

Bent parmer if the .... on knowing three ...

d Hull falls his death

d market are to be a second of the build

بالإقراضية فالويغيات بالإسامة that higherman is not the ingelige outlier on the 网络克朗勒 阿尔伯德克克斯伯尔 化 排放器 Fred. . No. Are that the little and that in

GEORGI PREMIUM TOURS OF tallage Talk of the A Section with the المتراسطة بيسو

AL HALL TH Ba .

IN BRHIT discuss Noyc's appeal

deset over attack on youth

ild must arson deaths

worker steats pertakabit for a diamond disc were recorded by 46 acts and five are by the

# Nations face Millennium bug blacklist THE COVERNMENT IS set to British travellers Whose air truffic control systems could fail. The TAPING Film survey of The Parts. Marce 1 The United States and Assure could fail. The TAPING Film survey of The Parts Market is suit. The TAPING Film survey of The Parts Market is suit. The Taping The Taping publishing similar blacklists this The Taping The Taping publishing similar blacklists this The Taping The Taping The Taping publishing similar blacklists this The Taping The T



lennium bug.

The Foreign Office an-

nounced yesterday that it had but the association has so far conducted a survey of 100 of its embassies and consulates and concluded that there were serious "concerns" about some nations' lack of readiness for the date change on 1 January, 2000.

Issuing its first ever advice to tourists and businesses worried about the effects of the millennium bug abroad, the Foreign Office said all travellers should be aware of the possible dangers to air transport, shipping, medical services and power supplies.

Computer breakdowns in "middle ranking" nations could also hit telecommunications, financial services and water and sanitation services.

Derek Fatchett, the Foreign Office minister, also called on the International Air Transport Association to publish its could not yet specify which

300 airports around the globe has identified problem airports, refused to make the findings public because it would cause

unnecessary panic Mr Fatchett stepped into the controversy for the first time yesterday with a plea for the IATA to publish the survey, which it has to date claimed is only for internal use.

"We would like to see them release it. We are going to try to persuade them to do so. With the public desperate to know, trying to hide the information is not going to be in anybody's interest," be said.

"I'm in favour of openness. It avoids the alarm and rumours that might be spread. This is not commercial information and I see no reason why it can't be released."

Mr Fatchett said that he

summer if the countries concerned have not improved their state of readiness and drawn up emergency plans for the event of widespread computer failure.

Mr Fatchett said that small and medium-scale British businesses operating abroad or dependent on imports should urgently prepare their own contingency plans in case the bug cripples foreign countries.

He revealed that the British embassy in Paris was contacting the Channel port authorities to ensure that shipping would not be hit by the date change, while diplomats in Cairo and Panama City were working on protecting the Suez and Panama canals for trade.

embassies Similarly, throughout the EU were working with host governments to ensure that motorway tolls and other land routes would not be

"The areas that give us concern are the countries of the old Soviet Union, and in Southeast Asia where there has been high economic growth. Our survey would signal that these are areas in which we would

have some concern." The UK would not publish the names of the countries yet because it was still working hard to rectify the problems. Only if they were still causing concern in three months' time would they be named, he said.

The UK has already contributed £10m to the World Bank to help developing countries prepare for the bug, and the British Council is bolding a series of seminars in key capitals across the world.

A spokesman for the IATA said that the airport authorities which had given it the information for its survey would not allow publication of the

### Families will pay £57 for day at Dome

TICKET PRICES for the Mil-lennium Dome were finally lennium Dome were finally revealed yesterday, with dissoften the £20 admission charge. A family of five will be £59 for a family of four). asked to pay £57, the equivalent under five being admitted for free. Children aged five to 15 and students will be charged £16.50, senior citizens £18 and the unemployed £12.

For college visits, the cost is £14.50 each and £8 for school pupils. Educational tours for those between eight and 16 are free. There are other group discounts for adults and senior an adult set at £20.

the £758m Dome, in Greensouth London, has been ics claiming that it would be prohibitive. The New Millennium Experience Company, which is running the Dome, said that it carried out extensive market research before deciding on the pricing levels.

The Dome will open to the public on 1 January 2000 and 12 million people are expected to visit it during the year.

The NMEC said yesterday that its prices compared well with both the Chessington

World of Adventure and Alton counts offered for families to Towers (which charges £19 for an adult, £15.50 for a child and

> tickets going on sale (on 22 September) to allow tour operators to finalise their prices. The Prime Minister, Tony Blair, announced on Wednesday that up to one million schoochildren will be admitted to the Dome for free as part of the

Tickets for the Dome will be sold through National Lottery citizens - with the full price for outlets, bus and coach compenies, package operators and National Express are proposing £29.99 each from anywhere in England, Scotland or Wales.

Jennie Page, the chief executive of NMEC, said: "We have deliberately structured ticket prices to favour group visits, so that the biggest discounts are offered to people coming with

The £57 family price applies family or friends.

The tariff has been annof £11.50 a head, with children ounced six months ahead of the Education Tours Scheme.

The pricing of tickets for through a national call centre. a controversial issue with crit- and admission to the Dome for

friends and family."

to parties of two adults and three children or one adult and four children. Groups can be

#### HOW THE COST COMPARES

The family group prices for the Dome compared with other major tourist attraction:

£57 (for five people) Millennium Dome £59 (for four people) Chessington World of Adventures, Surrey Alton Towers, Staffordshire £59 (for four people) Thorpe Park, Surrey

Museum of the Moving Image, £17 (for four people) Hannover 2000 Expo, Germany £68 (for four people)

Single adult prices compared with other tourist

Millennlum Dome Alton Towers £10.50 Tower of London Natural History Museum Madame Tussaud'

### Diamond discs for top-selling albums

PROVING THAT popularity and quality need not be close bedMedia Editor fellows, the American record industry yesterday announced a new category of award disc for record sales that outstrip both

the gold and the platinum discs. Reflecting a kind of precious metal inflation, the Recording Industry Association of America awarded 62 new "diamond " discs" to the albums or singles that have sold over 10 million

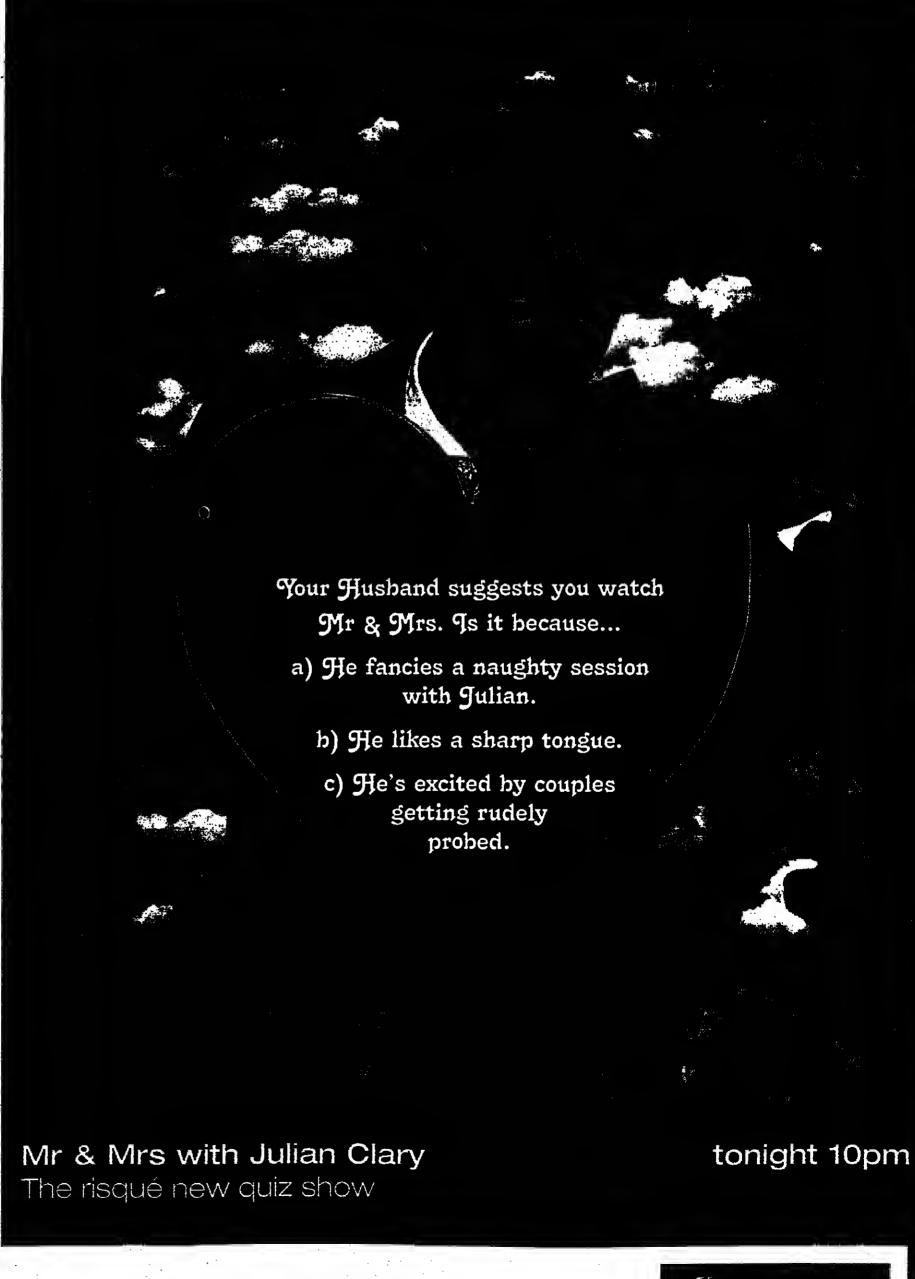
Gold discs go to records selling 500,000 copies and platinum discs to those selling a million, but the diamond disc has been designed for monster-sellers Thriller and The Eagles' Greatest Hits 1971-75, both of which

have sold 25 million copies.

Beatles. The country and western singer Garth Brooks comes close behind with four of his records eligible for a diamond disc. Elvis doesn't make it onto the list but Jon Bon Jovi and the Backstreet Boys do.

The only single eligible for a diamond disc is Elton John's Candle in the Wind, the tribute to Diana, Princess of Wales. which sold 11 million copies.

The Record Industry Association of America presented crystal trophies representing the diamond discs at a ceresuch as Michael Jackson's mony in New York this week attended by Billy Joel, whose Greatest Hits Volume I & II made the 10 million sales list. Also there for awards were The 62 records qualifying Elton John, Kenny Rogers and Whitney Houston.



tv gets better

start value) \$12,623.00. APR 8.4%. Eurther charges may be made on milesge/condition if the vehicle is returned at the end of the finance agreement. Written or with the first



### The holy relic done good in a game for true believers

and Sport committee on the stag- true cross. Understandably, perless for his intellectual expertise than for his status as a sanctified object. He was, Mr Davies pointed out, "the only person to score a hat-trick in a World Cup final".

other words, as a holy relic of English footballing success, superstitiously deployed to bring blessings on the Football Association's bid for the 2006 World Cup. Members of the committee were not actually permitted to touch Sir Geoff but they

toric bid", a moment to reassert the cult in the first place and it was time for us to claim back its most. important celebration.

THE LAST witness to be introduced were allowed to gaze upon him with too; the FA, he told MPs, had been by David Davies, leading a team giv- the devout contemplation usually asking itself "how we can use our ing evidence to the Culture, Media associated with splinters of the game as a power for good" and early missionary work in schools had ing of sporting events, was present haps, he talked in somewhat Mes- been successful. But more resignic tones about the task that lay mained to be done and the World ahead. This wasn't just an attempt Cup was the best vehicle for revival. to secure possession of a massive. When Ronnie Fearn wondered how ly lucrative event, it was "our his- Wembley's international status would be affected by the destruc-Sir Geoff Hurst was here, in British ownership of the national tion of its existing buildings Mr game. Sir Geoff believed that it was Davies assured him of the continthe duty of all of us to get behind this using appeal of that consecrated "national effort". We had invented ground. Overseas players and teams were all prepared to make the pilgrimage on the basis of name alone; as in modern Jerusalem all



SUTCLIFFE

have disappeared but the site was still imbued with religious power Matters were a little more down

the Institute of Professional Sport, mance here he has the natural in- said, and was alarmed to find himchairman Around 90 per cent of the pitch would come from one of the answers given to select committees could be roughly grouped under two Crooks would trap it expertly and headings: It's Not Our Responsi- make sure that it went no further. bility and The Government Should He sidestepped his sentence left, Give Us More Money. The high-minded proselytising of the previous retraced his path, expertly dodging session had disturbed this statistic full stops and firm conclusions. The a little but Mr Crooks and his col- footwork was fluent and the poise leagues set us squarely back on impressive but the yardage gained track again with an appeal for the was zero. players to be given more of a say. I don't know what position Mr Crooks held during his playing career (I'm Mr Davies was in spiritual mood trace of the original fabric might to earth with the next group of wir- a footballing agnostic as it happens)

committee members and Mr

demonstrated when he ventured an emotional plea to stop the sale of playing fields. He had raised this

nesses, a team of sportsmen from but on the evidence of his perfor- concern eight or nine years ago, he led by Garth Crooks, the institute's stincts of a defender A drive down self still talking about it today. Roger Stott looked puzzled. Wasn't it now illegal to sell playing fields without the express permission of the Secretary of State, he asked If Mr Crooks had evidence that playing fields were still disappearing he really should lay it before the committee. Mr Crooks realised he might have strayed offside and took advice from behind him. "We would like a little more time to put a document together", he said finally, still dribbling impressively, even though he'd lost possession of the ball some 10 yards back.

### Lorry firms 'crippled' by tax increases

THE TORIES stepped up their attack over the increases in fuel and road taxes for the hanlage industry yesterday as ministers prepared to meet angry lorry

Gillian Shephard, the Shadow Transport Secretary, said that the Government's policy was threatening at least 50,000 jobs in the industry because petrol was now the most expensive in Europe. Opening a Tory-led debate on the Government's transport policy, she warned that many companies would be forced to establish themselves abroad to compete with their Continental rivals.

"Of course some haulage companies cannot afford to move abroad. They will go out of business," she said.

"The Government has broken their pre-election promises on transport. There have been no immediate benefits for the travelling public. Their answer to transport problems is to tax the motorist off the road and put hauliers out of business."

Lorry drivers have already threatened to stage an organ-

BY SARAH SCHARFER

Political Reporter

Monday to protest against the increases in duty on diesel fuel. To avert the worsening crisis, Downing Street confirmed that John Reid, the Transport Minister, would discuss the industry's concerns at a special

meeting next week Similarly, Tony Blair has given his assurance that he understands the problems faced by the industry, and ministers are looking at measures to soften the impact of the increases.

But Dr Reid dismissed suggestions that British hauliers were at a disadvantage compared with Continental firms, saying that they would benefit from the Government's cut in

policies in the Budget will force carefully at their facts," he said.

When the whole costs of operating are added up, the vast ised traffic Jam in London on some evidence that foreign- the rises in excise duty.

owned companies are setting up in the UK The UK has lower overall costs and less red tape." The best way to help hauliers was to create a climate of sustainable economic growth and long-term investment in

"The Budget included measures which benefit hautiers. We froze road tax for 98 per cent of all lorries, we cut corporation tax, we doubled the maximum road tax concession for reduced pollution larries to £1,000 and we increased the duty incentive to use ultra-low sulphur diesel and cleaner road fuel gases." While Steven Norris, the

Road Hanlage Association chief. welcomed the meeting with Dr Reid, he made clear that this was a matter for the Treasury. "The Government must give an indication that there will be

"Anyone who claims that the genuine review of the Draconian rates of taxation that are hauliers abroad should look crippling the industry" he said. Eddie Stobert, Britain's bestknown lorry company, based in Carlisle, Cumbria, has said that majority of hautiess would be "it will register up to half its worse off abroad and there is vehicles abroad as a result of



### Comic helps launch Brown's charity scheme

CROSS-DRESSING comedian TAXATION Eddie Izzard yesterday donated £40,000 to charity to launch a new Treasury scheme to boost charitable giving.

From today Izzard will be starring in a series of high profile television and press advertisements to promote the Gift it will encourage young people,

BY COLIN BROWN Chief Political Correspondent

Aid 2000 scheme, which allows tex relief for donations of £100 a year, or more.

The Government hopes that

rate tax to the donation; so that ... The advertisements will be

worth £122 to charity.

who make one-off donations to National Lottery has led to a don Brown said: "What makes charities like Comic Relief, to steep fall in the money going it even more special is that if become regular givers. The directly to charities, particularly Inland Revenue will and hasic - among young people.

every £100 donated will be reinforced with reminders on cinema tickets and beer mats. It is aimed at countering Launching the campaign criticism that the success of the yesterday the Chancellor, Gor-

membership and approach,

they detach themselves from

what's happening in the real

economy. As I tried to be a real

economy chancellor, I think it's

a very unreal Monetary Policy

Committee we bave," Mr

Echoing comments by lead-

ing trade unionists worried

about the impact of high inter-

est rates on industry, Mr Clarke

said that the committee should

have regard to the wider econ-

omy. He accepted that the dom-

inant element in the remit of the

MPC had to be price stability,

but stressed that living stan-

dards, wealth creation and jobs

should also be taken into

account. "I think it should have

a wide regard to what's hap-

pening in macroeconomic policy generally," he said.

Mr Clarke said he would

have cut interest rates still fur-

ther this month as he had a

"gloomy outlook" of the world

economy. "My sense is that more bad news is on the way

and severe global slowdown is

an imminent risk," be said.

Clarke said.

you give the taxman will give as well making your contribution go further." For more details of Gift Aid 2000, call 0845-075 2000

Leading article,

MPs get

debate on

Lawrence

inquiry

BY SARAH SCHAEFER

THE STEPHEN Lawrence in-

quiry will be subject of a full-day

debate, the Commons leader

Margaret Beckett announced

yesterday. MPs will debate Sir

William Macpherson's damning

report, which accused the Met-

ropolitan Police of institution-

The Government, notably

the Home Secretary Jack

Straw, is likely to come under

attack after a list of police in-

formants were included by mis-

take in the report, many of

whom will have to be re-housed

as a result. Mr Straw attracted

further criticism when his

deputy, Paul Boateng, gave a

Commons statement on the

matter because he was in

France on "private business".

over an earlier leak of the in-

quiry's conclusions and by the

reversal after 24 hours of an in-

junction to gag the media.

There was also criticism

al racism, on 29 March.

# 24 HOURS A DAY, 7 DAYS A WEEK

#### LOW INTERNATIONAL RATES FLAT RATE FLAT RATE . 10p Belgium. Hong Kong. .. 15p

New Zealand. .10p One. Tel offers low cost international calls from your

home or business phone, 24 hours a day, seven days a week. There is no pre-payment required and you don't even have to change telephone companies. Call us now to register on 0800 092 8788 between 7am-11pm, Mon. to Fri. or 8.30am-5.30pm Sat. and 9am-5pm Sun. Once you are registered simply dial 1878

from your touch tone phone in front of the national or international number you wish to call. It couldn't be easier.

NO **SWITCHING** PHONE COMPANIES

JUST DIAL 1878



### 'Real people' must set interest rates - Clarke

KENNETH CLARKE yesterday called for a radical overhaul of the Bank of England's Monetary Policy Committee to ensure it was staffed by industrialists and City businessmen.

The former Conservative chancellor said that Bank officials and advisers should be removed from the membership of the MPC and replaced by people with experience of the real economy". Mr Clarke also said that the committee should take into account jobs and growth as well as inflation when it was making crucial decisions on interest rates.

In evidence to the House of Lords Treasury Select Committee be said that the overriding aim of economic policy should be steady, sustainable growth and that "everything else is subordinate"

In a scathing attack on the committee, Mr Clarke claimed that it had made itself look-"completely ridiculous" last year when it increased rates attime when the economy was heading for a soft landing.

Sainsbury's GM

SCIENCE MINISTER Lord

Sainsbury of Turville met

the director of a company

research in which he had

an interest "a number of

**Modified** feed

times". Stephen Byers the

Secretary of State for Trade

involved in GM food

and Industry said.

Jeff Rooker said.

meetings

ECONOMY Political Correspondent

Although the MPC had redeemed itself by cutting rates continuously in recent months, it was, be said, still "slavishly devoted" to "pretty useless" economic models drawn up by the Treasury in the Eighties that were irrelevant today.

To ensure genuine reform, the committee's membership should be widened to include up to eight outsiders such as industrialists, City businessmen and commentators with a "good feel for the markets", he said. There was "no reason whatever" for advisers and officials from the Bank of England to sit on the MPC, which should be reformed to resemble the US Federal Reserve or

the Bundesbank The officials should still be allowed to feed advice to the committee, but should not sit on what is currently a "wholly bureaucratic structure".

"My criticism is that by their

#### **QUESTIONS** AND **ANSWERS**

of self-inflicted deaths has risen almost every year. from 37 in 1988 to 83 last year, be said.

#### **New Deal cost** THE COST to the taxpayer ALMOST FOUR million tons

of each young person of imported soya and maize feed purchased by livestock getting a job under the New Deal is around £1,000, the farmers in 1997 and 1998 Employment minister would have been derived Margaret Hodge said. from genetically modified crops, Agriculture minister

#### Today's agenda

Commons: 9.30am Prison suicides Referendums Bill, TWICE AS many prisoners second reading, are committing suicide Cheques (Scotland) Bill, than 10 years ago, Home second reading. Office minister George Short debate on Tibet Howarth said. The number Lords: Not sitting

#### Literacy action to go ahead The Government is

determined to push ahead with its national literacy strategy despite the reservations expressed by teachers, according to the School Standards minister. Estelle Morris, "It's not necessarily about what teachers think," she said.

#### No tears over **Europe crisis**

MP for Bolsover, called for the scrapping of the European Commission over its current crisis. He told MPs: "The so-called crisis didn't result in people like me shedding any tears. The fact that you could see here, right from the very inside, the core of the Common Market – you could actually see it beginning to break

Dennis Skinner, the Labour

### THE HOUSE



#### **Tories attack** cuts in 'bobbies'

The Government came under attack by the Tories for cutting police manpower and closing police stations across Britain. The shadow Home Secretary, Sir Norman Fowler, said that government policy in the battle against crime was going in "exactly the wrong direction" because, at a time when people wanted to see more bobbies on the beat, they were getting

### e believen

head, straight and the straight Burker Story Locker British bein and Mr turn direction to

receil Burger be die.



MPs get

debate@

mquity

AWTelle

生磷铁铁矿 斯斯斯克拉特人名 William Afficiation process. self model to accompany to the 医沙漠切片丛 海水素等 计被心 人口工会 化二 e Potential difference and expension particular

haliya wane maya wiki

and the statement and the

But have some source Commercial Company of the control of April 1800 - . . . . . . . . . Marie Backs - A . The Control in Spinore and explained the second

I Minimil of All Con-Migrat to white a single make house he August, as 145 for the Market Market Market A PROPERTY AND A NO

The second second second Milegley angligan dita dia mili itu man was believed, the stateignienie piercera Marrie C. 75

Marian Maria

Tories attack

cuts in bobble

### New danger to wetlands

GOVERNMENT RED tape is putting the country's most important water meadows in peril, a leading wildlife campaigner claimed yesterday.

Graham Wynne, the chief executive of the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds, told a conference in London that a lack of co-ordination between Government departments and agencies was leav-ing many of these areas too dry for birds and wild animals. He said wetlands were a vital part of the countryside, controlling floods, providing grazing and playing host to a wide variety

of wild plants and animals. Surveys by the society have shown that species such as snipe and redshank had suffered declines of more than 50 per cent in the past 10-15 years. Once a common farmland bird, snipe are now almost extinct outside wildlife reserves. On the Somerset Levels their numbers have dropped by 79 Pulborough Brooks nature reserve in West Sussex, where the RSPB has restored water meadows to create a refuge for waterfowl and wading birds Chris Gomersoll per cent in 20 years. The RSPB

believes farmers' preference for dry ground has left land too hard for wading birds like the snipe to feed their young.

Mr Wynne said landowners were given grants to raise water levels in Somerset but the job was not being done properly. "A new study shows that a combination of neglect, sluices not checked for leaks and even sahotage means public money is literally going down the drain. There have more frequent checks on sluices and water levels.

The RSPB had called the conference to urge Government departments and agencies to work together to save the valuable wetlands. The society said that eight years ago the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Foods ordered the drawing up of water level management plans but fewer than half the schemes were completed by the 1998 deadline

### **Terrorist** methods' of green activists

GREEN CAMPAIGNERS and By JASON BENNETTO anti-road protesters were ac- Crime Correspondent cused yesterday of constructing "battlefield bunkers" and acting in a "quasi terrorist mode", by a team of police inspectors.

Her Majesty's Inspector of Constabulary called for new laws to prevent so-called eco warriors from setting danger-ous booby traps for police when tree houses at protest sites.

A report by HMIC, published yesterday, said: -ine announcement of any new construction project that is remotely controversial heralds a period of 'defensive building', such as the construction of elaborate bunkers, trenches and tunnels, often containing highly dangerous bobby traps posing considerable danger to those involved.

"A number of recent protest sites have seen even more elaborate and complex 'defences' being built. Guidance available on the Internet describes how to spike trees to cause injury to anyone trying to cut the tree, and, for example, how to mix glass and debris into concrete making any cutting a potentially dangerous operation.

"The result is a structure that resembles a battlefield bunker Existing legal remedies to prevent this fortification process are limited. It is only a matter of time before someone - a protester, bailiff, security officer or police officer - is seriously injured," it adds.

HMIC suggests new legislation should be introduced "to prevent this fortification process which goes far beyond the bounds of reasonable protest". The Home Office is to consider whether such legislation is needed.

The report, "Keeping the Peace: Policing Disorder" goes on to claim: "There is evidence that some elements operate in cell-like structures in a quasi-terrorist mode to keep secret their

A CASE brought by an English

couple who claim they were the

victims of racial discrimina-

tion by a pub landlord and his

wife in a Scottish village was ad-

journed yesterday after a legal

and his wife, Colin and Jacque-

line Pearson, called for the ac-

tion to be suspended until

another case involving the

rugby commentator Mark

Lawyers for the publican

wrangle over a similar case.

**English and Scots** 

in race-bias tussle

The inspectors say the police must respond by gathering intelligence and distributing it nationally and locally.

As revealed in The Independent in November, a na-tional police unit is being set up digging tunnels and building to track green activists and public demonstrations.

The intelligence squad, a variety of sources including Special Branch officers and MIS, will compile profiles of protesters and organisations considered to be potentially troublesome. The unit will also draw up action plans that chief constables can introduce to head off disorder.

The National Public Order Intelligence Unit will be based at Scotland Yard. The new outfit will incorporate the Animal Rights National Index, which lists details of protesters. Yesterday's report notes: "It is planned that public order intelligence officers in each force area will have access to the unit via a secure network."

There has been growing concern among police chiefs at the number and level of sophistication of green protests. There are currently demonstrations at proposed building developments at Manchester airport, a private toll road around Birmingham, and Crystal Palace in south London. Martin, a spokesman for the

direct action group Earth First, said: "The call for new powers is a gross over-reaction. It's a total myth that people set up booby traps. Campaigners have to live in these places so are hardly going to install some-thing that could be a danger."

Philip Lymbery, of Compassion in World Farming, said: "In a democracy people have a right to protest and express their opinion."

Session to rule whether there

are ethnic differences between

English and Scottish people

and whether the 1976 Race Re-

However, at Dumfries Sher-

iff Court yesterday, Sheriff Ken-

neth Barrsaid he could not hold

up the action against the Pear-

sons to await the outcome of a

case which could "go on for

years", and he ordered a re-

sumption on 28 May. The Pear-

sons are being sued for £20,000

lations Act is applicable.

### PRICE WARNING

PEOPLE WITH HEART CONDITIONS AND THOSE OF A NERVOUS DISPOSITION SHOULD LOOK AWAY NOW.



**BOYZONE** A DIFFERENT BEAT KATE BUSH THEWHOLE STORY **GARBAGE** GARBAGE JAMES BOND 30TH ANNIVERSARY COLLECTION SIMON & GARFUNKEL SUPER FURRY ANIMALS FUZZY LOGIC TAKE THAT GREATEST HITS AND HUNDREDS MORE.

ALSO AT £3,99: BLONDIE DEN

DR. HOOK 20 GREAT LOVE SONGS

**CULTURE CLUB** VERY BEST OF

AND HUMOREDS NOTE.

THE SIMPSONS SING THE BLUES

CD SINGLES FROM 99P CASSETTE SINGLES FROM 49P

THE JAM SEAT SURRENDER ERIC CLAPTON STAGES

JAMES BROWN GODEATHER OF SOUL

DETRY RAFFERRY BAKER STREET



OR BUY ONE GET ONE FREE

ALSO INCLUDING: DUKE NUKEM 3D, V. RALLY, HEXEN, 3 LIONS, PARAPPA THE RAPPA, WORMS, CRIME KILLER, ALUNDRA, ROGUE TRIP, NEWMAN HAAS AND MANY MORE



TOMB RAIDER II



LIAR LIAR, THE ROCK LEON, THE NUTTY

SHOOTING FISH, THE GODFATHER, GREASE, SATURDAY NIGHT FEVER, JERRY MAGUIRE, MEN IN BLACK, ZULU AND HUNDREDS MORE.



ALSO AT £3.99: SLEEPLESS IN SEATTLE, THE ITALIAN JOB, DANCES WITH WOLVES, THE SHAWSHANK REDEMPTION, PHILADELPHIA, SLEEPERS,

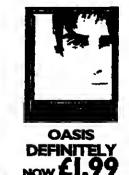
FERRIS BUELLER'S DAY OFF, PLANES, TRAINS & AUTOMOBILES AND HUNDREDS MORE DR. DOLITTLE



33.75. Total charge for credit £2,435.95 (includes a finance facility fee of £70, payable with the first

1.75. Your Clarge has a series in returned at the end of the finance agreeme

**COLLECTORS EDITION** DARTH VADER MUG (R.R.P. £16.99)



NOW £1.99 **BOOKS FROM** 



THE £3 MILLION PRICE DROP







A poster at a London bus stop spreading news of 'The Word', the capital's first international literary festival

### New literary festival aims to take books to high-rises

CATCH THE 22 bus into the City BY BOYD TONKIN of London this Sunday, and Literary Editor your journey might end in the company of Joseph L Heller. funded programme of 350-plus The legendary American novat the Barbican Centre - one among scores of high-profile events during "The Word", London's first international festival of literature, which starts today and runs until 28 March

Five Nobel Prize winners will join more than 60 other authors, drawn in equal numbers from the UK and abroad, in an ambitious London-wide, lottery-

Literary Editor

events. The Word embraces ters who might never have elist will be reading and talking club nights, comedy classes and a movie-title masterclass as and debates

Among the star turns, Doris Lessing will appear in Woodford Green, Walter Mosley in Lewisham, Germaine Greer in Battersea and Margaret Atwood in Sutton, while even the reclusive John le Carré breaks cover for an event at the Peacock Theatre in Holborn.

However, if you want to call the central box office and make a booking, think again. There isn't one; all tickets will be sold by local venues, whether it he the Enfield Civic Centre for Sue Townsend and Terry Pratchett, or the Surbiton Assembly Rooms for Peter Carey. The reasons for this absence of a central core help explain The why the director Peter Florence, who also runs the Hayon-Wye literary festival, thinks it can find an annual niche in the capital's cultural diary.

Mr Florence has designed "a festival that reaches across the city rather than simply concentrating on Soho or the South Bank". The Word plans to take writers to the people, in verdant suburb or high-rise estate. It has no wish to replicate the "pilgrimage model" of most festials, in which avid readers ite authors in some pleasant country town, This aim means, in many cases, an attempt to match the fare on offer with the varied interests of a culturally

complex metropolis.
"It's significant," Mr Flostrongest line-ups consists of

gig at the Hackney Empire on Monday Meanwhile, a series of short films on Cariton Television will try to reach potential punsampled a writers' event. "What we really need to do is to bring the festival into the Trevor Mc-Donald slot," Mr Florence said.

In fact, The Word is building on the work of other innovators. During the Eighties, the literary entrepreneur Tony Fairweather first located a huge live audience for black writers when he brought figures like Alice Walker to inner-city venues. The writer and arts consultant Ken Worpole, who ran pioneering writing groups in east London, points out the shifting combination of "location, audience and writer always make a fill a hall in Catford but empty a bar in Covent Garden; another, delighted, for instance, that Turkey's greatest living novelist, Orhan Pamuk, will be coming to Hackney in the heart of London's Deborah Moggach and Wendy Perriam's discussion of sex in fic tion to the kerb-crawling purlieus of Streatham?

Mr Worpole said The Word "is going to be a bit of a boost don", which provides many of its sites. But an annual jamboree professional practice at the Library Association, reveals there were 56 branch closures in London between 1987 and 1997. Opening hours have fallen by 22 per cent in the same period, and ence said, "that one of the - power by 45 per cent. The Word may open new minds to modern wo writers from Nigeria and a literature, but some of those guy from St Lucia": Wole Soyin- converts will return to their za. Chinua Achebe and Derek local libraries and find the door

### Call free now or your usiness will pay ater.



0808 22 4 2000

The Big Number

Something is happening that will affect every business in the country. From 1st June, the new 02 codes and numbers become live, and you and your customers can start using them-provided you have made the necessary technical amendments to your telephone equipment. Call Barring and five other similar issues must be addressed hy lst June. If they're not, your switchboard might he unable to recognise the new codes, and you could find you're losing business. So, do two things now: call 0808 22 4 2000 for our free booklet which explains all the changes, and hook your telephone maintainer to pay you a visit. We think you'll agree it's better than paying later.

Code changes are coming. They start on 1st June.



www.numberchange.org

### £10,000 from British Nobel' goes to Omagh

THE IRISH novelist William By CLARE GARNER Trevor is to hand over £10,000, awarded to him as part of a prize for a lifetime's literary achievement, to a young person from Omagh to help them build their own writing career.

Mr Trevor yesterday became the fourth winner of the David Cohen British Literature Prize, dubbed the "British Nobel" because it is awarded for a body of, rather than a single, work.

The prize consists of £30,000 for the author, plus £10,000 to commission work which will encourage young writers and readers. Announcing that he would be giving the bursary to someone from his native Ireland, Mr Trevor, 70, said at a ceremony in London last night: "I have based this idea on my own

my life. It is, I believe a time when creative people need most financial support."

Dr Tess Hurson accepted the £10,000 bursary on behalf of the Arts Council of Northern Ireland, saying: "This is a very generous gesture to a town which attracted worldwide attention last year for the most awful reasons. William Trevor's award looks to the future; it encourages creativity and will provide a wonderful opportunity for a young person to pursue a literary career."

Mr Trevor has twice won the Whithread Award: for The Children of Dynmouth (1976) and Fools of Fortune (1983), and in 1984 Felicia's Journey was the Whitbread Book of the Year.

#### Prizes Galore

THE DAVID COHEN British Literature Prize is one of 225 literary prizes which will be awarded this year. Among them are: The Booker Prize, worth £20,000, won last year by lan McEwan for Amsterdam.

■ The Whitbread Book of the Year, worth £21,000, has been won for two years running by Ted Hughes: last year for Toles from Ovid and this year for Birthday Letters. ■ The Orange Prize, worth £30,000, is open to

women only. The most recent winner was Caroi Shields with Larry's Party. The Samuel Johnson Prize for Non-Fiction, worth £30,000, is the only

prize devoted to nonfiction The international Impac **Dublin Literary Award is** worth £85,000. The most recent winner was Herta

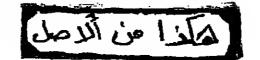
Muller for The Land of Green Plums. The Forward Poetry Prize, worth £16,000 in total. Ted Hughes won the main prize last year with Birthday Letters.

Among the more Obscure prizes are the Bird Book of the Year award, the Thumping Good Read award and the Management Consultancies Association Book Prize. And for Scottish writers there is the Stakis Prize. CLARE GARNER

### PHILIP HENSHER



£4m! My God, is that all the debt she can acquire in 98 years?



### iterary al aims e books. h-rises

More visited and

the statement and their or Million and Mallet Musics : and Correlation Libres 15 ernen and Margaret A:

In an the Parist

CONTRACT OF STREET STREET TO CO. toward the effect and there to week the company of to think opinis There lineal verments, windther at the al and Three Products

"便快" "知道,如此" " " " " " " " " " " ಕ್ಷೇತ್ರವಾಣ ಕ್ರಿಚಿಸಲಾಗಿ ಮಾರ್ವಿಚಾಗಿ 🕟 🕬

and the term bridge and the life desired to hell a er be a Ministra on throughout the late to De Transport and Williams me free 2 kg Mar 18 5.342

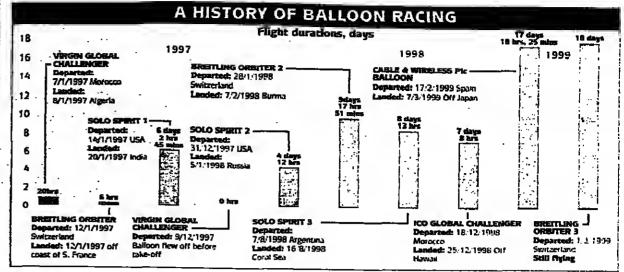
A things inches ... is

ENGLISH TO THE #1 S#17 4 T Charles and the The Committee of the States Lake And As inge Beger Mit für fin

HILLP HENSIER Eam! My God, is that all the deal she can acquire in 98 yr 315 RELIEN

### Hopes soar as balloon nears journey's end





TWO PILOTS attempting to be BY KATE WATSON-SMYTH the first to circumnavigate the globe in a balloon were last night on course to break the record for the longest balloon

By the early hours of this morning Brian Jones, from Wiltshire, and his Swiss copilot, Bertrand Piccard, will have been in the air for 18 days. beating the previous record of 17 days and 18 hours set by the Cable & Wireless team earlier

If all goes according to plan, the Breitling Orbiter 3, which was last night heading out across the Atlantic, will cross 9.27 degrees longitude over Mauritania tomorrow evening. setting the circumnavigation

The pair had been hoping to

lier hut strong winds on Wednesday night caused the balloon to drift in a southerly direction and they lost half a day. During the night the balloon also used more fuel than on previous nights.

Alan Noble, the Breitling flight director, said he hoped it was a one-off problem caused by the balloon passing through a few clouds and that there would still be enough fuel to complete the flight

Luc Trullemans, a Belgian meteorologist who is beloing to guide the pilots on their journey, said: "The balloon had deviated too far south and was not following the winds we had planned for it. The adven-

ture was nearly over.

in the control room at midnight GMT that six more hours flying like that and it would have

He added that Mr Piccard. 41, had undergone hypnosis over the radio to help him overcome the stress of the

"Bertrand spoke under hyp-nosis to a medical friend in Lausanne who boosted his morale. He also got more oxygen and the stress diminished." he said.

Victoria Osborne, a spokeswoman for the team, said Mr Jones, 51, and Mr Piccard were both now extremely tired but quietly confident

"We are calculating how much fuel they have, and whether if there is enough to complete the journey, they will be able to fly on to Egypt and land there in daylight," she

"We were quite worried about them on Wednesday because they had spent six days had no communication with us for four days because of tech-

nical problems. "They were feeling very strained but after being able to talk to their wives and have a sleep while they were over land they started feeling much better and are ready to set off

across the Atlantic." The balloon was travelling at just over 55 knots yesterday. and speeding up as it approached the Atlantic winds, at an altitude of almost 35,000ft.

The pilots have flown more than 20.825 miles since taking off from Chateau d'Oex, in

The Link

83.75. Total charge for credit £2,435,95 (Includes a finance facility fee of £70, payable with the first processes of the second of the finance agreement. Written quotations

Part of OSG Retail Ltd

### Students say lecturers not up to the job

STUDENT LEADERS insisted By BEN RUSSELL that tough new standards for university teaching be made Lag down" a proposed gold standard for lecturers and said there were too many academics with poor teaching skills.

The National Union of Stu-10. (NN) from Britis dents said undergraduates deserved a guarantee of teaching standards in return for their said it was unacceptable that membership of a new body set up to accredit teaching standards would be voluntary. They claim that too many lecturers consider standards of teaching the "poor relation" of their

research work. Lecturers, however, insisted that staff were already well trained in teaching techniques, and predicted that the proposed standards would be a success.

The NUS made the demand as part of a consultation on plans for the national Institute for Learning and Teaching, set up to regulate university teaching standards. The institute effectively a General Medical Council for university lecturers - was proposed in 1997 by Sir

**Education Correspondent** 

compulsory yesterday. They Ron Dearing (now Lord Dearport on the future of higher education which led to the introduction of tuition fees. The Dearing report insisted that tough guarantees on standards were an essential part of the tuition-fees package.

To win membership, academics will have to compile a portfolio of their lecture notes and other written work, proving they are competent teachers. They will also have to keep their teaching skills up to date. Under current proposals

membership of the institute will be voluntary, although many universities plan to insist on accreditation for new staff. Andrew Pakes, the NUS president, said: "Students will demand high standards because

cash is being paid over the table. "They are complaining more because quality and standards are essential. I think there is large scale bad teaching practice. It's not to say lecturers are bad at their subjects, but there has been very little investment in how they communicate that knowledge. All students have the

from motivated and wellthe right to quality."

institute'a council and an official of the National Association of Teachers in Further and Higher Education, accepted that the current proposals may be too complex, but said a properly run national system would be accepted by the majority of staff. She said: "This is something that should happen with the support and co-operation of academic staff and being too heavy handed would be a mistake. It is very difficult to say to people who have been doing a job very well for 20 or 25 years that they suddenly have to

jump through all these hoops.
"It is important to get this right, but a lot of teacher training is already going on, particularly in the new universities." ■University lecturers will meet employers today for the start of talks on their 10 per cent pay claim. The Association of University Teachers, which represents staff in the "old" universities, has threatened to disrupt examinations and university entrance in the summer if their claim is not met.

### Report shows new risk to diet-fad girls

TEENAGE GIRLS who follow drict diets are 18 times more ely to develop an eating disorder than those who eat whatever they like. Even those girls who diet moderately are at five times the risk, according to researchers who studied 2,000 male and female students aged

14 and 15 over three years.

The findings, published in the British Medical Journal, suggest that exercise is the safest way for teenagers to control their weight. This is confirmed by a second study, published yesterday in the United States journal Archives of Poediatrics, showing that television is linked with the growth of Obesity among American teen-

The US study of 1,300 students showed that a schoolbased program which aimed to cut down television viewing to less than two hours a day increased activity among the stuBY JEREMY LAURANCE Health Editor

dents and reduced their exposure to commercials for sweets and junk food. Over two years, obesity fell among the girls who went to schools involved in the programme (from 23.6 per cent to 20.3 per cent) and rose among those at control schools where it did not run (from 21.5 to 23.7 per cent). Among boys there was little change.

The BMJ study, conducted in Australia, found that 8 per cent of the girls had followed strict diets and a further 60 per cent had dieted at a moderate level. Over one year the strict dieters had an almost one in five chance of developing an eating disorder, while the moderate dieters had a one in forty chance.

Boys were at much lower risk. Psychiatric problems were also found to be strongly associated with the development of eating disorders, raising the

risk almost sevenfold. Professor George Patton and his colleagues, from the University of Melbourne, say that it is possible that the link between strict dieting and eating disorders exists because in those who start severe dieting a process leading to the devel opment of an eating disorder has already begun. However, they conclude: "In adolescent weight control, promotion of exercise rather than restriction of dietary intake may prove less of a risk in the development of eating disorders."

The authors say previous research had suggested that taking part in sports, especially those that required thinness such as gymnastics, might increase the risk of eating disorders. However, they found that daily participation in sports did not raise the risks above those already associated with dieting.

#### (The Link) SAVE -10 On Our Best Selling Mobile PLUS FREE CALLS WITH ONE 2 ONE Choose from 45 minutes of calls every month or free weekend, evening or daytime calls\* FREE VoiceMail retrieval • Line rental starts from £17.50 per month Additional calls from 5p per minute NOKIA ONE 2 ONE DIGITAL MOBILE PHONE 99 name and number memory • 30 different ring tones THE LINK PRICE Includes 3 fun games to fill those quiet moments Model: 5146 Was £29.99\* 2 abs 100 NOKIA 8 min FRONT PANELS 7 pops Change the front panel 0-SAVE of this phone to suit your mood. Choose from over 10 colours and designs from only £14.99 each. **BRITAIN'S** UNBEATABLE **OVER 170 STORES BIGGEST CHOICE** NATIONWIDE PRICES Over 50 mobiles Freephone You won't find 0500 222 666

### Clinton emerges from press purdah

Bill Clinton will do something he has not done for almost a year: walk solo into the East Room of the White House and submit himself to unscripted questions from reporters.

The presidential press conference, a genre that the White House press corps regards as tantamount to a constitutional right for the Fourth Estate, has been suspended since the Monica Lewinsky scandal became a threat to Mr Clinton's presidency. Today's press conrence, which is scheduled to last an hour but on past performance could go on much longer, is a clear effort by the President and the White House to draw a line under the Lewinsky affair and the impeachment drama that followed.

The last such press conference took place last April, three months after the first White House panic about the Lewin-

sistent questions about the veracity of the President's denials not go away and discouraged the White House from risking another media free-for-all.

Since then, relations between the White House and the US media, especially the Washington media, have been fraught to non-existent.

Mr Clinton was not completely isolated, but every occasion was stage-managed to minimise spontaneity. The President appeared in tandem with other state leaders, or at scripted events in the White House or the Rose Garden where he could choose to take questions or not - and frequently chose not to.

His spokesmen - Mike Mc-Curry until last autumn and, since then, Joe Lockhart -

have come in for ferocious crit- Britain can only envy, but also icism for being distant, un- to a cosy system of give and communicative and, at times. sky scandal. Then, reporters' in-plain inaccurate. Mr McCurry, who often looked awkward at the podium and professed to knowing nothing about the Lewinsky affair, has admitted since leaving the White House that he was unhappy with the lack of information coming

from the Oval Office, but tried

never knowingly to lie.

Officials at the White House, where Mr Clinton - it transpired - had repeatedly lied to senior aides, objected to what they saw as intrusive and hostile questions from overbearing reporters with ambitions to fell a president. Reporters accused the White House of stonewalling and - after Mr Clinton's confession in August - of lying. The White House press corps is used not only to a degree of

take that borders on patronage.

Since Mr Clinton's acquittal by the Senate two months ago, the White House has been loosening his leash. When he travelled to Mexico on Valentine's Day, he and Hillary Clinton handed out chocolates to the press. During his recent visit to Central America, the President attended two informal din Mutual resentment built up. ners with select members of the media. Last weekend, he answered questions shouted by

> reporters on a visit to Arkans Today's event is the culmination of these "normalisation" efforts. It will show not only whether the President is ready to face the media, but whether Washington reporters are ready to consign the Lewinsky affair and Mr Clinton's duplic-



### Russians relish sex and video 'skandal'

RUSSIANS RELISH political By PHIL REEVES 'skandals" more than any other blood sport, and the latest to surface in the feral world defeat by parliament in just over of Moscow politics is a classic.

The chief exhibit is a secretly recorded videotape, which purports to show the country's ton prosecutor cayorting with two young women.

Such scenes ought to be a vitae of one of Russia's most senior officials. As Prosecutor General Yuri Skuratov is in the front line of law enforcement, a medal-bedecked warrior in the battle against corruption.

clin of the film was screened on There was no sign of the spotless military uniform that Mr Skuratov, 46, is fond of wearing. Instead the portly stud was seen in a pair of underpants.

The screening came as the prosecutor was confident that his job was secure, for the first time since being forced into offering his resignation six weeks ago. Only hours earlier, he had strode out of the Federation Council, parliament's upper house, after it voted to refuse to accept his decision to quit.

The council, made up of powerful regional leaders, was shown the videotape before the vote, but decided that what the prosecutor may have done within the walls of someone else's bedroom was his own business.

While this may appear to be a refreshing example of Russian liberalism, the reality is less attractive. The Prosecutor General's survival revealed only that the upper house was intent on humbling the sick and meddling Boris Yeltsin. The President wanted the Prosecutor General out; the council, which has the final

in Moscow

six months, providing further evidence of his wasted political

There is another issue, Russia's regional heavyweights in the Federation Council have plenty of their own skeletons. fatal blot on the curriculum. They doubtless hope for the same generosity from the Prosecutor General that they have accorded him. Mr Skuratov's fight against crime will now be tougher still.

Not that he was making That is not how it turned out. much headway. His term has in the early hours yesterday, a been marked by a failure to crack any high-profile cases a national television station. - neither the murder of the television executive Vladislav Listyev, nor that of Dmitri Kholodov, an investigative journalist blown up by a briefcase bomb, nor that of the democratic parliamentarian, Galina Staravoitova, gunned down in St Petersburg last year.

Mr Skuratov disagrees. This week he portrayed himself as a victim of his own intrepid labours. Complaining of "illegal bugging" and "interference with private life", he linked his attempted ouster with sensitive operations by his department. It has been looking at how Russia's Central Bank transferred foreign reserves into a Jersey account, and into the activities of the tycoon Boris Berezovsky.

But before he can pursue these matters, Mr Skuratov must fend off a counter-attack by a wounded Mr Yeltsin, who has launched a Security Councii inquiry into his conduct.

But one case looks likely to forge ahead. Mr Skuratov's office yesterday said it might prosecute the RTR channel. which screened the offending word, was having none of it. So clip. The channel had "jeopar-it delivered Mr Yeltsin's second dised the Prosecutor General".

### **US settles Cuban bill**

A JUDGE in the United States By Frona Bell. vesterday ordered that more than \$6.2m (£3.8m), owed to Cuba by US telephone companies, be paid instead to the families of three Cuban-Americans killed when their planes were shot down by Cuban jets in 1996.

The families of three of the pilots killed in the attack won a judgment of \$187m against the Cuban government and the Cuban Air Force in 1997 but had been unable to collect it. Judge James Lawrence King, who

vesterday that the families could seize Cuban assets in the US, including payments owed to Cuba by telephone companies doing business with the island. More than \$4.1m should come from AT&T and about \$1.05m from MCI International

Cuba's state telephone company severed most of its links to the US in February because US telephone companies had been withholding payments made the 1997 judgment, ruled pending the court's decision.

Renewing your home insurance in March or April?

If you are 50 or over call free! **№ 0800 414 525** 

Quoting Reference

ID3912 Lines open Monday to Friday 8.302m - 7pm, Saturdays 9am - 1pm

If you have ever found yourself on the wrong tariff you're probably on the wrong network.

Other networks can make a lot of money from you being on the wrong tariff. But at Cellnet that's not how we like to work. Giving our customers value means recognising that their monthly usage can change from one month to the next. Which is why we created Fair Tariffing. We change your monthly tariff to minimise the bill you get every quarter. It's a radical idea which no other network has come up with. After all, why should they? Better still you can join us and keep your existing mobile number. So to avoid the wrong tariff, get on the right network. Call us on 0800 40 50 30.

cellnet first



AVAILABLE FROM PARTICIPATING SERVICE PROVIDERS. CONNECTION TO CELLNET IS SUBJECT TO STATUS. TERMS AND CONDITIONS APPLY, FIRST DISCOUNTS APPLIED QUARTERLY, TELECOM SECURICOR DELLULAR RADIO LIMITED.

imes cellnet

### A him with prostitutes has been broads lussians elish sex nd video skandal'

makan mung Masa 200 रे केन्द्रकारके स्थापना सामग्री केन्द्रका रहता. heritagen at the best of the second of the s Management operations of the grant and the contract of the con fig. page and the season to be been being the second of the second graded a fally distance with the cona the whomps then contribute garden and a street of the street of the state of A NAME AND THE POPULATIONS

metal toward and who is Specific authorist referent from Proper the world became to bearing . . . . . A though you was a second of the state of the same of the same of the પ્રસુદ્ધ તાલું કે મુક્કે કે તે જો કરો અને કે મોરા કરતા છે. જો પ્રસ્તા છે. हुने स्वयंत्रक राज्या होता । स्वयं राज्या and the property of the state o

fish rate and still trate and September 1 State of the State the same a specie Burgarate Services The state of the s The same of the same of the same graph agraph before may (X, X) . Section of the sectio

and appropriate the second

me March of the last Special Control of the Control of th

US settles Cubant

The second second The Louis of the Frem with your boune had

If you are folial met of ibret!

### Albanians sign up to empty peace

WAS IT drama or farce? The By ROBERT FISK Kosovo Albanians signed their autonomy agreement here last night - with not a Serb present and even the Russian negotiator refusing to add his name as

"Signing up for peace," the Americans deviously called it. But it must have been the only treaty in Europe to be proclaimed a success after being signed by one side and ignored

Balkans envoy Christopher Hill was the best that the Americans could produce for this odd, stilted performance at which the four Kosovo delegates - Ibrahim Rugova and the military leader Ibrahim "the Snake" Thaci in the middle dutifully signed their documents in total silence.

Austrian diplomat Boris Petritsch witnessed the signatures for the European Union. But no one said a word about the empty chair in which Boris Mayorski of Russia should have sat. "It takes two to tango," he had announced on Wednesday. He could say that again.

were effectively at an end. But what next? There was talk of another deadly warning ("time is running out", "those res-ponsible will be held fully accountable") from our Foreign Secretary, Lieutenant-General Sir Rohin Cook. But you only had to watch James Rubin outside the Avenue Kleber conference centre, as the French riot police and plain-clothes flics glowered at the rows of television crews, to know we are not going to war. Not yet.

"It's hard to predict" what the future holds, announced the US State Department spokesman, as immaculate a major-domo as we could expect to find in his immaculate black suit and bright red tie behind the police barricade. "Nobody wants to pursue military

Then later, after we had been told about the Kosovars' "courageous decision to choose peace", Mr Rubin let the cat out of the bag: "Clearly the West, the international community is prepared to go the extra mile for peace.'

You bet they are. At a Berlin summit, which other European Union members only heard about from the press, General Cook and his French and German opposite numbers pondered the alternatives to war. Having won first prize from the Americans for signing an agreement that leaves them a long way short of independence, Messrs Thaci, Rugova The Kosovo peace talks and their Kosovar colleagues are being invited to Washington for talks with Supreme Commander Madeleine Albright.

Which will keep them quiet while the Serbs continue to bombard, burn and loot the villages of Kosovo's Drenica region. So much for the "peace" that Mr Rubin was trying to proclaim yesterday.

Then there is the idea privately touted by the Americans that the Russian Prime Minister, Yevgeni Primakov, might visit Belgrade early next

Veton Surroi, spokesman of the Kosovar delegation, briefs journalists before the signing ceremony in Paris

week for another tilt at the Yugoslay President, Slobodan Milosovic, the man whom even Richard Holbrook couldn't break. This might constitute "the extra mile for peace" of which Mr. Rubin spoke so

blithely yesterday. So would a Cook planned to do his "time is visit by Mr Cook and Hubert Vedrine of France, though they would hate to be told to go home, as US negotiator Christopher Hill was last month, especially if General

running out" act.

things to come in Mr Rubin's stick", he told us. "It is very imcheery meeting with the press yesterday afternoon. After tion to stay unified." It was also Washington, the Kosovo Alba- very important, he added, that

There were other hints of so that the implementation will

the Kosovars should "stay in touch with the United States". Nobody asked why this "necessary consultation" should be necessary. Was the Kosovo del-

have been led to believe? Could

it be that there will be an unconscionable delay between the delegations' signature "for peace" and the arrival of Nato troops, a delay so long that the Kosovars will suffer hundreds more martyrs at Serb hands?

Nato has told us all again and again that if the Kosovo Albanians sign up to the autonomy agreement and the Serbs do not, then Serbia will be bombed. But it is not being bombed.

No wonder the men of Koso vo were praised for their peace", that the Serbs were blamed by Mr Rubin for their "intransigence". Other words for their behaviour might have been chosen by the refugees fleeing the latest Serb offensive. No wonder that much was made of how Hasbern Thaci personally thanked Supreme Commander Albright for her work in bringing about the agreement. She was sorry she couldn't be there, we were told.

We saw the Kosovo delegation leaving later, Mr Rugova philosopher, intellectual, long discarded as the spearhead of independence - giving us all a royal wave from his bus.

Then came the signing cer emony, "It will be clear for all the world to see that the Kosovo Albanians have chosen the path for peace," the American spokesman told us. But jour nalists were not even allowed to sit in the same room as the delegates. Instead, we were invited into the French foreign ministry's conference centre to view this supposedly historic Through a glass darkly.

### · Burma jibe over Suu Kvi's ailing husband

BURMA'S MILITARY government said yesterday that it was reviewing a visa request from the dying British husband of the opposition leader, Aung San Suu Kyi, but said the request was "surprising", and that it would be more sensible for her to visit him.

"The government [of Burma] uggests that Ms Suu Kyi, who is in perfect health, travel to England to respond to her husband's dying wish to see her She has so far refused to go," it said in the capital, Rangoon.

The military has long sought a way to get Ms Suu Kyi, the biggest thorn in its side for a decade, out of the country. She has not left for the past 11 years, fearing she would not be

allowed back if she did. Sources close to the family say that ber husband, Michael Aris an Oxford academic who has been denied a visa to Burma for the past three years,

to the Internet too.

phone bill!

access the world has ever seen.

that even comes close to this offer.



exile if she leaves Burma

is dying from prostate cancer which has spread to his spine and lungs.

The government said in a Ms Suu Kyi "all possible assisdid not say if she would be al-The authorities argued that a mother (Reuters)

Sunday, X-Stream users will receive the free est Internet

No set up fee, no subscription charge - not even a

But don't take our word for it, try it for yourself.

After all, it's free I What have you got to lose?

PREE Internet access FREE POPS Essell

SAK v.00 compliant

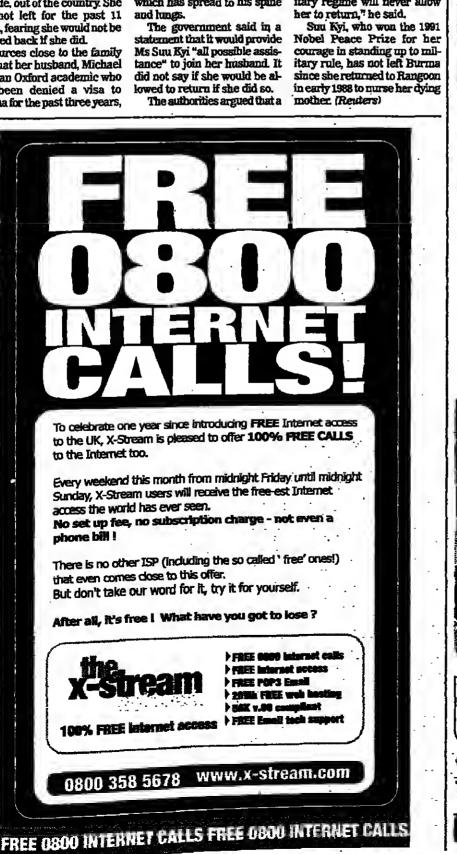
268h FREE web hosting

trip by Mr Aris to Burma "would appear to be both irresponsible and inhumane, and the government is reluctant to encourage or endorse such an action".

The sources close to Ms Sou Kyi's family said that even if Mr Aris were granted a visa, he was not fit enough to travel. But he would do so if his condition improved, despite fears that he might not survive the journey.

Tin Oo, vice chairman of Ms Suu Kyr's National League for Democracy, said that the op-Aung San Suu Kyi: Fears position leader was very worried about her husband but could not leave Burma, "She knows that if she does, the military regime will never allow her to return," he said.

Suu Kyi, who won the 1991 statement that it would provide Nobel Peace Prize for her courage in standing up to miltance" to join her husband. It itary rule, has not left Burma since she returned to Rangoon lowed to return if she did so. in early 1988 to nurse her dying





I leave makes to status. Written credit ductations available on request from Dept. MRCHEC, Haylands Avenue, Heard Hernostead, Horis HTZ TTG. (Applicants must be 10 or over, 21 = 14. Instant.)

ure value) \$12,623,00, AFR 8.4%, Further charges may be mad

TO DOTE OF COST

V 14,400, Vepon 28,74735. Ban

Credit subject to status. Wraten quoistions available from: Dept MK/PC PLAN, Maylands Avenue, Hemet Hempslead. Heris HP2 778. (Applicants must be 21 or over.)

33.75. Total charge for credit £2,435.05 (includes a finance facility fee of £70, payable with the first

milesge/condition if the vehicle is returned at the end of the finance agreement. With

### New purge of EU officials on the way

THE EUROPEAN Commission By KATHERINE BUTLER looks set to be convulsed by a further wave of revelations on corruption and mismanagement and a ruthless purge of ranking civil servants are also the top ranks of its officials.

The five person inquiry team whose damning report helped topple the commissioners on Monday night, is now preparing for the second phase of the probe. Yesterday some members of the committee accused the Commission of "hindering"

The target of the next phase is the Commission's 24 directorates-general whose 16,000 staff carry out the day-to-day management of tasks and the execution of policies including the awarding of financial con-

There were suggestions in the German press yesterday of a rearguard attempt by the Commission hierarchy to gag the inquiry by refusing to cooperate with the next round. But any refusal to hand over documents would trigger all-out war with the European Parliament when the beads of government like Tony Blair have demanded "root and branch"

The inquiry team is reported to have already received hundreds of boxes of additional information which will form part of the second phase.

The prospect of a purge of senior ranking permanent officials is now being relished by handpicked aides and political advisers in the Commissioners' "cabinets" or private offices, who themselves were indirectly the target of much of the criticism in the first phase re-

"There is no point in clearing away the commissioners who accept political responsibility if you leave in place the faceless civil servants who were actually lining their pockets and mismanaging things," said one cabinet member yesin Brussels

Many middle and junior anxious to see a clear out. "The wise persons report is only the tip of the iceberg" said one. Others said they were appalled by the report and expressed solidarity with Paul Van Buitenen the sacked Commission whistleblower Mr Van Buitenen was given a standing ovation when he showed up at a general assembly of EU staff unions on

from anyone anywhere," be

Cresson: Suggests the report was exaggerated

Among the targets of the new broom would, according to some sources, be powerful behind the scenes figures. "Why should these top civil servants get off scot free?" said on in-

The presidents of political groups in the European Parliament meet on Monday night in Brussels to decide the remit for the second stage of the inquiry and parliament officials say there will be agreement that it should proceed. "There is definitely a feeling that we need to go down to the next rung of the ladder".

The inquiry team yesterday hit back at commissioners who suggested that parts of the explosive report were deliber-

ately hyped up. Edith Cresson, the disgraced French commissioner, on Wednesday suggested that the conclusions of the report did not tally with the body of the text and had been sharpened up for political effect on Sunday night after she had seen them. Pierre Lelong, president of the French court of auditors, one of the inquiry team flatly denied the accusation. "The conclusions were not hardened up. The few changes we made were done with the most scrupulous attention to

the truth and without pressure

Walter Van Gerven, a judge formerly on the beach of the European Court of Justice, was another of the five wise persons. He said: "The European Parliament gave us our mandate and I think they are quite bappy with the work we did". He added that the most serious problem shown up by the inquiry was that the Commission had taken on too much work. "The Commission is not made to directly manage hundreds of contracts with tourism promotion associations for ex-

"Likewise to launch a poliin Romania and then to entrust the job to a private company and let it choose the beneficiaries of public money that is madness.

Andre. Middelhoek, a former member of the EU court of auditors, slated the culture of commissioners failing to look beyond their own noses, "Commissioners should look beyond the hedges of their garden and tear out the weeds from the gardens of their neighbours." The inquiry team was ap-

pointed in January after the Commission agreed to co-operate with a probe in a bld to stave off a vote of censure in

Donald Macintyre, Review, page 3



Sir Leon Brittan, 'caretaker' Commission vice-president, fields questions yesterday on whether he will run for president

### Rift opens on stopgap president

cy of aid to abandoned children A NEW rift has opened up among Europe's leaders on whether to appoint an interim successor to Jacques Santer, as signs of a quick agreement on who should fill the job of European Commission president faded yesterday.

Although several countries including Britain and Germany have called for the speedy appointment of a full-time replacement, many believe there is a growing likelihood of an interim Commission headed by a caretaker such as Sir Leon Brittan, the British vice-president of the Commission, or the Belgian

One complication is that the new president needs to he approved by the European Parliament. Because elections are the 15 leaders. If a decision

commissioner, Karel Van Miert.

BY STEPHEN CASTLE

due in June, a permanent president would require the support of both the old and the new parliaments, requiring two processes in nine months.

Several countries, including France, now expect an interim solution and Spain wants to keep the existing Commission in place at least until the European elections.

Two serving premiers who have not yet let their names go forward for the top job of president, Wim Kok of the Netherlands and Antonio Guterres of Portugal, are likely to come into the frame, if either think they could get unanimous support of

could be delayed until later in Mr Kok and Mr Guterres might the year that would help Mr Guterres because he would not want to leave before Porniguese elections, which are due in the autumn.

Romano Prodi, the former Italian premier, has won early status as favourite but one European diplomat said yesterday: "He is a little obvious, and the obvious candidate usually does not get it." Although he has the backing of the Italian government, he could suffer from not being a member of the socialist group to which 11 of the 15

heads of government belong. Tony Blair has publicly praised Mr Prodi, with whom he attended a seminar in Washington last year on the Third also win British support when the real horsetrading gets Javier Solana, Nato's Secre-

tary-General, is a socialist but does not have the support as yet of the Spanish premier, Jose Maria Aznar, who comes from a rival party - Mr Aznar would prefer Mr Guterres with whom he has close relations, Mr Solana could become available after the Nato summit next month. Felipe Gonzalez, the former Spanish prime minister, is unlikely to get Mr Aznar's backing.

Rudolf Scharping, the German Defence Minister, could emerge if Bonn decides to put forward a candidate. And there is even speculation that Jean-Way, but this could be tactical. Luc Dehaene, the Prime Min-

ister of Belgium whose candidature for the job was blocked in 1994 by the then British prime minister John Major. of a Cat

shallow.

7.7244.7

1

de Libra

could re-emerge as a contender. Germany yesterday ruled out the possibility of deciding on a new president at next week's summit in Berlin. Instead, lead ers want negotiations over the Agenda 2000 financial reforms of the EU to have priority.

A further complication revolves around treaty changes. Under the existing Maastricht treaty, the parliament can reject the president, if it chooses, and examine appointments of Commissioners. But after 1 May, the Amsterdam treaty comes into force, strengthening the powers of the assembly which will be

### DON'T CHAT ON TIME DON'T SPIN YOUR WEI DON'T GIVE A CO.UK

DON'T ALTER YOUR VISTA

DON'T SEARCH IN VAIN

DON'T BE LEET ON THE HARD-SHOUL OF THE INFORMATION SUPERHIGHWAY



### Bonn opposition rounds on Schroder's handling of crisis

THE GERMAN government was BY IMRE KARACS accused yesterday of botching in Berlin its duties in Europe and of pushing next week's European Union summit in Berlin to the brink of failure.

Such criticism has been levelled before by Germany's opponents in Europe, but this time it was voiced by Gerhard Schröder's opposition, which traditionally stands shoulder to shoulder with the Bonn government on important Euro-

pean matters. "From every capital in Eu-rope we have been bearing all week that the German Presidency has worked extremely poorly and had been extremely badly prepared," said Wolfgang Schauble, leader of the Christian Democrats. "You are burting Europe when you do such

The attack came during the first Bundestag debate on the EU since the mass resignations

take Joschka Fischer, the Foreign Minister, by surprise. With Helmut Kohl, the undisputed champion of EU integration, sitting silently in the back benches, Mr Fischer appealed for bipartisan support, but got

Mr Kohl's successors feel the administration has its priorities wrong. Left with the task of sorting out the mess in Brussels, the government continues to insist that Europe's leaders must reach an agreement on reform before addressing the question of who should be the new Commission President.

"If the EU doesn't do its homework in the current situation, it would appear inca-pable of acting and politically split, and this would lead to a regression into national selfishness," Mr Fischer told



Gerhard Schröder: Accused of lacking finesse

at home for pushing its own

Though the claim for a re-Kohl government, the Christian



"A failure in Berlin would endanger the timetable of expansion," he warned, referring to the queue of applicants waiting for the EU to sort out its budget and institutional reforms before they can join. But Bonn has been criticised both abroad and budget rebate too hard.

selves in opposition say Mr Schröder lacks his predecessor's finesse, and is therefore endangering a deal.

For the first time, Mr Fischer hinted yesterday that Germany was prepared to lower its sights in its growing desperation to reach a deal. Acknowledging that Germany would remain the largest EU contributor, the Foreign Minister appeared to settle for a token reduction.

What is decisive is to achieve a fairer distribution of the burden," be said. That would mean Britain paying a little more and Germany paying a little less. Now only the final figures need to be haggled over. "A compromise is in sight," Mr

Germany appears ready to loosen its grip on the agenda in Berlin, allowing time for a disduction was first made by the cussion on who should suc-

### Dump commissioners, says outrageous and indefensible"

WILLIAM HAGUE will today demand that all 20 members of the European Commission should lose their jobs permanently after the scathing inquiry re-vealing traud and mismanagement in Brussels.

The Tory leader will raise the stakes in his battle with Tony Blair over the EU crisis by saying none of the existing commissioners should be reappointed after a new commission president has been found to succeed Jacques Santer. Although all 20 commission

members resigned after Monday's inquiry report, a majority of them are expected to be reinstated. Mr Blair has called for Sir Leon Brittan and Neil Kinnock, Britain's commissioners, to get their jobs back.

At the Weish Conservatives' conference in Cardiff, Mr Hague will say: "We need a total clear-out of the existing Euro-Mr Hague said it was "totally

that commissioners resigning in disgrace could receive severance packages worth up to £300,000. He said Mr Blair must not back down after calling for the payments to be blocked.

Downing Street conceded esterday that it was not aware of the provisions in the comto Mr Blair's demand. "A lot of people would find it staggering circumstances in which they

Mr Hague said Partiament should be allowed to approve the Prime Minister's choice of Britain's representatives in Brussels. But the Tory leader

faced accusations of "double standards" from his own MPs at a private meeting on Wednesday for not consulting them before missioners' contracts, but stuck he proposed that Sir Alastair Goodlad, the party's former chief whip, succeed Sir Leon in that these kinds of pay-offs are January. Some MPs wanted Mr being bandied about, given the Hague to nominate Chris Patten, the former Tory chairman.

### IT'S A ROLLOVER!

Total Sales: £28,173,730. Prize Fund: £12,678,178 (45% of ticket sales).

		CHCH WINNER	TO IAL BACH TIER
Match 6 (Jackpot)	0		
Match 5 plus bonus ball	5	£271,413	
Match 5	370	£2,292	£1,357,065
Match 4	21,239	£87	£848,04D
Match 3	419.650	£10	£1,847,793
TOTALS	441,264		£4,196,500
© Camelot Group pic. Players must be 16 or ov		Brook are seed	£8,249,398
	_	busings (but)	6 rounded down to newlest £1); £18.30

### Mafia controls fifth of Italian cafes



Customers a an Italian café. In its appetite for 'front' businesses, the Maña is taking over restaurants

IT IS a statistic many Italians BY FRANCIS KENNEDY will find hard to digest but one in every five of their restaurants is controlled by organised crime, according to Italy's main business association, Confcommercio.

While the humble pizzeria is the most popular Mafia investment choice, Confcommercio says they have also taken control of gournet establishments.

The Mafia's appetite for front businesses, which allow it to put dirty cash into circulation, emerged at a seminar that brought together money laundering experts from Italy and the United States.

Statistics show that Italy's four crime syndicates control around 15 per cent of hotels and 18 per cent of bars and icecream parlours, with the Cosa Nostra of Sicily in top place.

While the shadow of the Mob hovers over many business sectors, the record goes to cement businesses, about 70 per cent of which are controlled by the Mafia. Each of the organised crime groups controls about a fifth of the bank deposits, properties, gold and antiques marin Rome

kets, travel agencies, car workshops, old people's homes. shops, bars and restaurants. Little is known of where the money comes from. Organised crime collects about \$20bn

(£12.5hn) annually in Italy through protection rackets and loan-sharking. Some \$14bn comes from the drugs trade, \$11.7bn from illegal gambling and \$7.9bn from prostitution. Experts on organised crime

warn that the Mafia's stronghold over certain businesses poses a threat to the rest of the economy: businesses whose main function is simply to turn over cash are likely to slash prices and put legal competitors out of business. Organised crime groups are also exploiting the latest technology.

The possibility of transferring vast sums across the globe in seconds by electronic wizardry means the takings from drugs, prostitution, arms dealing and toxic waste trafficking can be turned pearly white without leaving a trace.

Participants at Money Laundering 2000 in Rome yesterday also heard that in the criminal underworld, gold ingots are replacing cash as the basis of international deals. Crime syndicates are also making increasing use of stock markets. using white collar accomplices with financial nouse to invest their millions. Delegates heard warnings that while the birth of the euro will limit the chance for laundering through currency transactions the pressure of preparing for the single cur-rency means banks may let their guard down.

The speaker of the Italian parliament, Luciano Violante, a former head of the anti-Mafia Commission, called on Western countries to take tough, concerted action against states offering financial sanctuary to the Mafia. He proposed an embargo against paradisi fiscali or tax havens, such as the Cayman Islands and the Bahamas, Italy's anti-mafia prosecutor, Pier Luigi Vigna, said the spread of money laundering not only risked crippling free competition but endangered democracy itself.

### president

A 1.22

\*\*\*\*\*

الجمال

. . .

suddenly fred.

released.

to escape the amorous at-

tentions of a Scandinavian

All trails ra into the sand.

Until last wek, when Ms

Feliu's tormetors were re-

vealed to be her neighbours.

Antonio Guirdo, or "Toni",

an Olot policenan, part-time

coach to the chool football

team and a cistomer at the

Feliu pharmac, worked night

shifts patrolling the town and

protecting its 7.000 residents

from petty crine. Toni, prone

to migraines ad depression,

broke down lat Tuesday and

confessed he vas one of the

local lumpensand bullyboys

incarceration Among them

was Roman Ulastre, a wood-

cutter, sometme debt col-

Toni finger d a handful of

culprits.

Torello.

English teacler.

seed or a military bruge blate the tack Bar bend Market STATE OF THE PARTY OF THE PARTY. A PR OF THE PART OF THE A 大学 かまりまままり まっっちゃ AC ANSWER WASHINGTON TO THE STATE OF THE WENT WENT IN THE LABOUR STORE TO STORE

the members of the at de grande rengale des 1. i. Bhar Nice West - Jugager September of the second section of the second - a kept & str defending the later services ing William produced a production of the control of obernya signak gergalagi kalanda alam da 🐧 🗂 🔭 📑 while and the entire to Transaction Person of the

in their Budgerer Affen .....

### ounds on ng of crisis



Apple to the state of the James Commission Call den sylvania Distance .... or begins higher ! ت دره سانها د

s. says Hague

AND AND A SECOND A Section 全**线**数 1.200 15 15 15 · 1988年 1984年 1 the saying of some disco-

Section 2 To the Control of the Cont Service of the service of A STATE OF S 黄州 歌声 500

Ullastre hal led an 11,000strong demonstration in December 1992 calling for Ms Feliu's releas. But his wife, Montserrat, ashier at the Fox Trok disotheque, this week admitted - in the face of her husbald's public denials - they hid indeed dug a little cell beneath their garden, near his collection of snakes. A Mooccan labourer this week ricalled digging

MILLIONS & Spaniards have a pit there, which he thought been transixed in recent was for a gym.

of a Catalan

EUROPEAN TIMES
OLOT, SPAIN

The motive seems to have days by theunravelling of a been money. Within days of her abduction, Ms Feliu's mystery mre gripping and bizarre that any of the televised meloramas to which family received a ransom dethey are sollevoted. A rural mand of £200,000 or £400,000. crime that ould have been They went twice to pay up, but created by (eorges Simenon the kidnappers never showed. is unfoldingin Olot, a small

Ms Feliu, a frailly pretty woman, married with three Catalan town in the path of children, was never allowed the Tramotana, the wind that sweep south from the to see the captors who kept Pyrenees nd, they say, her in the dark. But she dismakes ever one a little crazy. In Novemer 1992, a young tinguished eight of them by voice, and invented nickpharmacist Maria Angels names that police sought fruitlessly to match with peo-Feliu, was kinapped at gunpoint from he car as she was ple. This week, as detention driving into er garage near followed detention, we put the chemists he ran with her faces to some of the names. Ullastre was Cortadedos

mother. For 82 days she was held in an underground pit less than sixeet square and infested with rats and scorbecause he had threatened to "cut off her fingers". Sebastian Comas, a part-time barman pions. On Pain Sunday 1994, and deliveryman recruited by given up fordead, she was Ullastre, was Inaki, a Basque name because he had told her No one slipped town, no one said a wod, and after the (falsely) that he was from the north. There was also El Abueinitial blaze c publicity, this closed mountin community lo, El Loco, El Quemao, El Infelizote (Grandad, Crazyman, where monopny is considered a measure of wellbeing Burned-out, Miseryguts).

Inaki brought her food and other necessities, treated her



Maria Angels Feliu: Held in a pit for 492 days

kindly and talked about Pink Floyd and Mike Oldfield. Perhaps smitten by remorse or fed up with a situation that appeared to be leading nowhere, he eventually freed her. He took her to a deserted petrol station, pushed some banknotes into her hand and warned her not to remove her hood until she had counted 2,000. Ms Feliu reckoned he was the "least bad". prompting speculation that a "Stockholm syndrome" of sympathy had developed between them.

The big questions remain unanswered. Who orchesas conspiratos in Ms Feliu's trated this bizarre conspiracy? Of the six suspects taken in this week, none admits to being the ringleader. Was the lector and boyguard to the ransom paid, despite the fammayor of nearly Sant Pere de ily's insistence it wasn't? Did the gang leader use it to buy the silence of the others? What kind of community suppresses such a collective

crime for so inng? Ms Feliu leas so far said nothing. Polic : are reported to be preparing her to issue a statement, to relive her torment. A nation holds its breath for the : ext twist in the

ELL ABETH NASH

### Sinister saga The Best Ever shallow grave Digital Camera & Family P Deal! Discover the magic of digital. photography with this complete package that includes top

Buy the EXEC model now & pay nothing until March 2000 with our No Deposit, Interest Free Option!

333M-II FamilyPC

• 4.3Gb Hard disk • 8Mb ATI 3D AGPx2 Graphics

32x CD-ROM Drive
 3D PCI Wavetable sound

· All standard features including 1.44Mb floppy drive,

Windows 98, Keyboard, Mouse, Video trainer, Recovery

366 3D 10Gb Model: Includes AMD K6-2 3D 366MHz

processor, 3D NOW! technology and larger 10.1Gb hard

gamepad, microphone, and 13 extra CD titles for just

Two Special Finance Options

1. Pay Nothing Until March 2000

12 Months Interest Free Option

on EXEC models only

1906 APR Notice Response Beautiful De 1908 APR Cash price of Front APR ON Cash price of Front APR 2008.

2. Time Low APR Purchase Plan

on all models

APR Cashpice Etemple:
Cashpice Etemple:
Cashpice Etemple:
APR Cashpice Etemple:
and 48 usonthis at £27.33
idei price £1311.84 APR 14.9%.

IBM PR-333 processor • 64Mb SDRAM

14" digital colour screen • 512K cache

EXEC Models: Include 5 top games, joystick,

Product codes: 333M-II 338, 333M-II EXEC 339; 366-2 3D 34D Exec 341

56K PCI voice/fax/data modem

disk, AntiVirus & All software backup CDs

disk £50 Plus VAT = £58.75 extra.

299 plus VAT=£116.33 Extra.

spec FamilyPC, digital

camera, printer, scanner

and much more for just

£739+VAT or only

Stylus 300, 720 dpi colour inkiet printer allows you to print out your pictures (RRP £119). Choice of printer cables at extra cost.

00000000

Digital Camera



take snaps and load them in to your PC. PLUS

Lotus SmartSuite Millennium

full office suite.

PLUS Home Seibenze

The GSP desktop publishing suite and a further 3 titles.

PLUS

photocopie

and fax

machine

RRP

£119)

**IBM ViaVoice** Executive speech recognition software.

E-mail/Internet trial and Supervoice

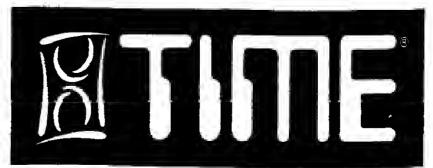
Modern Internet Pac

Scanner

Advanced A4 colour scanner also

Gb Hard Disk

56k



we're on your side

send no majory now. rount proces synotice commer delivery charge which varies with declination; UK mainland (accluding Scoblish Highlands) is 225 + VAT = 529,38. Prices, specifications and others are subject to change, availability and to our conditions of sale, copies from Time Computer Systems Ltd. Granville House, Francis is subject to status. Videon details on request. Goods normally delivered within 5-7 days. All orders fulfilled within 25 days unless otherwise specified, inclustry practice is to measure monitor CRT size. Vision gares can be appear it less. Software pre-loaded and supplied on CD with on-line help. Protographytichoses packs shown for flustration only. Time and the Hourglass are registered trademarks, Time we're on your side and Family PC are 'flustrations'.



### It's **Time**

for salespeople who take the time to understand your

for clear explanations in plain English - not jargon

to cut out the middleman and cut the cost of computers

to visit us - we probably have a Time store with easy parking, within 15 minutes drive of your home



Ì	120 s	tores	natio	nwid
1			everyday	
	LORDONC paizzs ARSEA Bankton Extensived Bronsley Carary Vitual Colindate Charton Chinglord Dagenton Epson Hayes Old Kent Rd. Park Royal Piccelley Suples Conter Totanhan Westen Auszu SOUTH & S. EAST Bankton Guildord Hayes Brighton Chippishan Guildord Hayes	Luton Aladistonie	Chelmsford Colchester Interference Interference Interference Interference Coventry Derby Partington Coventry Derby Partington Lincoln Notingham Solffull Stoke Termoch Country Termoch Country Martington Lincoln Notingham Solffull Stoke Termoch Ter	Bolton Chester Liverpool Mancheste Outdram Presion Sallord Stockport Warningtox Wigan Youtgan Hardersfe Ha
ı	Horshese Kettering	Bedford Cambridge	Bięckium Bieckpopi	Bellest Dublin
-	窗	speak to u	our local Ti our advisor: REE help	and pick

For details of your nearest store Freephone

Information lines open 9am-7pm everyda

Direct order line Freephone 0800 771107

Open: Mon-Fn 8.30am-7pm, Sat 9am-5pm Sun 10am-4pm

Offers end 24th March

using value) £12,623.00. APR 8.4%. Further charges may be made 53.75. Total charge for credit £2,435.25 (includes a finance facility fee of £70, payable with the first or milesge/condition if the vehicle is returned at the end of the finance agreement. Written or extrans-

### BUSINESS

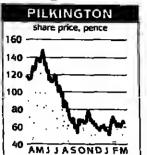
### BRIEFING

#### Deutsche ups cash call to DM6bn

DEUTSCHE BANK said yesterday that it was increasing the size of the rights issue to fund its \$10bn (£6.25bn) purchase of Bankers Trust by 50 per cent to DM6bn (£2.07bn). The German giant said the extra cash would help equip it for

"continuing consolidation" in Europe's banking industry. Chairman Rolf Breuer dampened speculation that the bigger call meant Deutsche would step into the bank bid war in France. There has been talk that Deutsche could partially underwrite BNP's bid for Société Générale. The bank's shares fell 1.23 euros to 50.65 on the cash call news. Net income, including the DM3.2bn windfall dividend from the bank's Daimler-Benz shareholding, tripled to DM3.4bn.

#### Pilkington restructuring on target



PAOLO SCARONL chief executive of Pilkington, said yesterday the benefits were coming through from the restructuring of the glass maker's European operations, with margins almost double last year's and prices firm. Demand for float glass in Europe, Pilkington's largest single business area, is running at similar levels to last year, while plant disposals and

closures in Britain and Germany are mostly completed. Mr Scaroni confirmed the group would take a £30m charge in the full year for exchange rate related losses in Poland, Mexico and Brazil

#### Goldsmiths bids £44m to go private

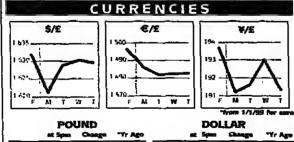
GOLDSMITHS, the jewellery chain, yesterday became the latest company to give up on the stock market when its management launched a £44m bid to take the group private. The management team, led by chief executive Jurek Piasecki and backed by the Alchemy venture capital group, is offering 183p per share. This is a 9 per cent premium over the previous day's closing price hut a 63 per cent premium over the price just before Christmas when the management made its first approach.

FTSE 100	DOW JONES	MINOREI						
000	9990	6400						
00	9940	e000						
00-	9900	5600						
000 F M T W 1	9950 F M T W T	5200 F M T W T						

		INDIC	ES			
ladez	Close	Change Ch	-140(%) S	2 mk high 5	2 wk low Yle	44(%)
FTSE 100	6114.30	-26.30	-0.43	6365.40	4599.20	2.67
FTSE 250	5463.30	-22.00	-0.40	5970.90	4247.60	3.12
FTSE 350	2917,50	-12.40	-0,42	3024.90	2210.40	2.74
FTSE All Share	2825,40	-11.50	-0.41	2923,83	2143,53	2.78
FTSE SmallCap	2373,80	-1.10	-0.05	2793.80	1834,40	3.45
FTSE Fledgling	1293.70	-0.90	-0.07	1517.10	1046,20	4,17
FTSE AIM	847.10	-2,30	-0.27	1146,90	761,30	1,11
FTSE Eurotop 100	2877,72	-11.15	-0.39	3079,27	2018.15	2.05
FTSE Eurotop 300	1242.43	-3.42	-0.28	1332.07	880.63	1,96
Dow Jones	9905.77	24.69	0.25	10001.78	7400.30	1,60
Nikket	15717.92	-550.19	3.38	17111.59	12787.90	0.90
Hang Seng	10659,32	-280.75	-2.57	11926,16	6544,79	3,35
Dax	5013.61	-63.81	- <u>1</u> ,26	6217.83	3833,71	1.73
56P 500	1305.32	7.45	0.57	1311,11	923.32	1,23
Nasdag	2440,97	11.77	0.49	2533.44	1357.09	0.28
Toronto 300	6599,80	6,38	0.10	7837.70	5320.90	1,61
Brazil Bovespa	10638.68	3,92	0.04	12339.14	4575.69	5.85
Belgium Bel20	3315.17	-27.35	-0.87	3713.21	2696,26	2,12
Amsterdam Exch	537.59	-2,38	-0.44	600.65	366,58	1.91
France CAC 40	4152,37	-17.64	-0.42	4404,94	2881.21	1,74
Milan MI830	37004.00	361.00	0.99	39170.00	24175.00	1.10
Madrid Ibex 35	10039,70	-79.40	-0.79	10989.80	6869.90	1.74
Irish Overall	5296.87	-0.73	-0.01	5581.70	3732.57	1.57
5 Korea Comp	578,98	-21.54	-3.59	651.95	277.37	0.36
Austrolia ASX	2967,70	-10.10	-0.34	2996.30	2386.70	3.11

INT	EREST RA	TES
\$/£	€/⊈	¥/£
1 635	1500	194
1 620	1 490	191
V V	1,470	197
F M 1 W 1	F M I W I	5 W 1 W 1

700	MONEY MARKET RATES						BOND YIELDS						
Index	3 mouth						Long bend						
UK	5.39	-2.17	5.33	-2.26	4.43	-1.49	4.43	-1.41					
us	5.00	-0.69	5.28	-0.50	5.10	0 47	5.48	0.43					
Japan	0.18	-0.52	0.22	-0.44	1.80	0.05	2.59	0 25					
Germany	5.03	-0.48	3.02	-0.72	3.91	-0.95	4.90	-0.52					



Dollar	1.6297	-0.01c	1 6699	Steeling	0 6136	+0 00p	0 5988
Eur -					0 9100		0.8571
Yen	191 35	41.19	217.30	Yen	117.43	·¥0 71	130.04
S index	102 50	+0.10	107.50	5 undex	107 40	.0.20	109.40
	ΟT	HE	RIN	DIC	ATO	R.S	

	OT!	114	RIN	DI	CAI	O F	15	
	Close	Chg	Yr Ago		Index	ChE	Yr ago	New Res
Brent Oil (5	1 13 42	0 50	12.03	GDP	135.40	3.00	112.04	Mar
Gold (S)	282 35	-1 70	291 40	RPI	163 40	2.40	159.57	Mar
Silver (S)	5.04	0.00	5.80	Rase	Rares	5.50	7.25	

italy (lica)

Malaysia (ringgits)

Rates for indication purposes only

Australia (\$)	2.4984	Mexican (nuevo peso)	14,4
Austria (schillings)		Netherlands (guilders)	
Belgium (francs)	57.85	New Zealand (\$)	2.935
Canada (S)	2.4147	Norway (kroner)	12.2
Cyprus (pounds)	0.8272	Portugal (escudos)	285.4
Denmark (kroner)	10 72	Saudi Arabia (rials)	5.937
Finland (markka)	8 5486	Singapore (S)	2.662
France (francs)	9.3933	South Africa (rands)	9.697
Germany (marks)	2.8080	Spain (pesetas)	237.7
Greece (drachma)	461.27	Sweden (kronor)	12.9
Hong Kong (\$)	12.24	Switzerland (francs)	2.298
ireland (punts)	1.1249	Thailand (bahts)	55.0
Indian (rupees)	62.12	Turkey (lirasi)	57027
israel (shekels)	6.0579	USA (S)	1.592

2786

189.53

### BICC rebuffs £379m Wassall takeover bid

BICC HAS turned down a By PETER THAL LARSEN takeover approach from Wassall, the aggressive venture canital vehicle, which valued the beleaguered construction-tocables group at £379m.

Wassall last night revealed that it had made the tentative offer, which was pitched at 90p cash for each BICC ordinary share, to BICC's board last Friday. However, BICC rebuffed the approach earlier this week, prompting Wassall to make its

tentative approach public. Chris Miller, Wassall'a chief executive, said: "We believe that this proposal should be brought to the attention of BICC shareholders and continue to seek a constructive dialogue with the board of BICC."

**National** 

**Express** 

takes on

BY PHILIP THORNTON

Transport Correspondent

NATIONAL EXPRESS, the public transport group, is planning an attack on the £8bn American school bus market as

part of a strategy to create an

strong position and could spend

up to £250m "tomorrow" be-

cause of its low gearing. It said

up to 40 per cent of sales could

come from overseas within two

Colin Child, the National Ex-

said the US school bus network

the country's largest trans-

was still run hy public sector

"The other third in the pri-

school boards.

ganisations," he said.

international business. The group said it was in a

buses

**US** school

Mr Miller said he wanted BICC's shareholders to be aware of Wassall'6 interest so they could make a decision about whether the price was fair. However, BICC said the offer

was inadequate and did not reflect the work that had heen done in turning the company Alan Jones, the chief executive, called for Wassall to make a formal offer. "They ought to

put their cards on the table and

say what they precisely want to

do," he said. "I'm sure the

shareholders would expect them to do it property." BICC is this morning ex-

statement to the Stock Ex- self from a mini-conglomerate change explaining why it rejected the offer.

The stock market will this morning have its first opportunity to respond the news, which was announced after the close of trading yesterday BICC shares closed down 1.5p at 82p yesterday, while Wassall shares were up 2.5p at 208.5p.

Apart from its cash offer for BICC ordinary shares, Wassall is also proposing to offer £1.10 worth of 10.75 per cent loan stock for each of BICC's 200m convertible preference

Wassall's move follows months of speculation that it was preparing a hid for BICC.

into a venture capital-style vehicle last year, has been building a shareholding in BICC since last autumn. It currently owns more than 9 per cent of

The bid also comes just six months after Wassell took control of TLG, the lighting group, in a £353m deal after outbidding Cooper Industries, the US diversified electricals group.

BICC.

Shares in BICC have more than halved in price in the past year, mainly due to sharp price falls and sliding demand for its cables businesses as a result of the Asian crisis and worldwide economic slowdown.

Last week, the group repected to release an official The company, which turned it- ported a pre-tax loss of £94m for

the year to December 1998, compared to a loss of £30m in 1997. Before exceptionals, profits fell from £110m to £70m. BICC shareholders have fre-

quently pressured the company to separate its Balfour Restiv construction arm from its cables operations. However Alan Jones, the chief executive, has constantly rejected

Wassall last night insisted that it intended to bid for the whole of BICC. It also stressed

it wanted to bid on its own. However, analysts said that if it succeeded Wassall would be likely to find another buyer for Balfour Beatty, allowing it to concentrate on improving the

### Retail sales dip adds to rate cut pressure

By DIANE COYLE **Economics Editor** 

RETAILERS HAD aglum Feb ruary, according toofficial figures yesterday. Alon; with weak lending figures, thenews convinced many analyts that an-

other interest rate ut is likely. The volume of siles on the high street dipped by0.3 per cent last month. There was a 1.3 per centrise in the year of February. but the Office for National Statistics said the underlying rate of sales growth had dowed.

"There is enough here to convince the Bank & England the economy needs 3 bit more of a lift," said Ciara Barr, an economist at Deutsche Bank.

Willem Buiter, theone memher of the Monetary Jolicy Committee to vote for an interest rate cut earlier this month, said vesterday he favourel moving quickly to a level at thich rates would not have to becut again. However, he added that confidence indicators has improved since January. "There has been a quick turnaround, he said.

Most analysts seeme level of borrowing costs falling from the current 5.5 per cent o a trough of 5 per cent or even 45 per cent, Yesterday's statistics showed declines in all categores of sales volumes in February nyear-on-

year terms, sales of lousehold goods remain the stongest, up THE US trade defiit soared

to a record \$16.99h in January as exports of Usgoods fell and imports of stee and mannfactured goods sared. The bilateral deficit with

China showed a particularly big rise, up from 3.98bn in December to \$4.86n in February. Steel impres from China jumped by 6 per cent. The deficit with Apan narrowed from \$188hn to \$4.66bn, but the overall trade gap was about \$bu wider

than analysts hadexpected. The yawning gap between imports and expots is likely to slow US econonic growth significantly during the year. Figures on consumer prices showed them rising by just 0.1 per cent in February, taking the annual inflation rate to 1.6 per cent. The bengn inflation outlook means tie Federal Reserve is expected to leave US interest rates unchanged.



press deputy chief executive, Phil White, National Express chief executive, and Colin Child (behind), deputy chief executive Magali Delporte

port system - was ripe for con-solidation and privatisation. He US's fifth largest operator. Mr rent zero position. Child said National Express and to Australia where it is bidding for rail franchises, because of the common language and similar legal and accounvate sector is fragmented and

run by 5,000 'mom and pop' ortancy standards. Last September National Express bought two operators

with 1,750 buses, making it the cent from the US from the cur- total dividend was 16p per its rise 31.5 per cent to £25.9m.

The expansion plans were said two-thirds of the system had been attracted to the US. revealed as the group, with tributed to the inclusion of a full ent routes, with passenger huses and coaches, announced a 77 per cent surge in annual profits for 1998 to £97m from

Within two years, up to 40 per Operating profits before exceptional costs rose 14.4 per cent to £95.6m (£83.6m). The cent of turnover would come from overseas, including 30 per

share, up from 13.5p. train operating companies acquired in 1997 - Central Trains. ScotRail and Silverlink.

Together with the Gatwick Express and Midland Main Line, the division saw turnover

Passenger growth ranged Much of the progress was at- from 5 to 15 per cent on differyear performance for three numbers up 7.5 per cent to 137

Mr White said National Express planned to ask the Government to extend its franchise terms for Central, ScotRail and Silverlink beyond their current steam ahead to £918m and prof- seven years.

### Rover crashes | GKN links with Agusta £650m into red to form helicopter giant

HUGE RESTRUCTURING costs By Philip Thornton sent the Rover car company deep into the red last year, ac-

Rover made a loss of around DM1.87bn (£650m) compared with a loss of £91m in 1997. Its German owner BMW disappointed analysts with a 27 per cent fall in net profits to BMW said the sharp rise in

osses at Rover was a result of "model changes, market and currency factors and the restructuring measures". The figures came as BMW ex-

ecutives examined details of the Government's offer of grants aimed at securing the future of Rover's Longbridge plant, which employs 12,000 people. BMW is debating where to build the production site for the

successor to the Rover 200 and

400 series mid-range car. It has

both the UK and Hungarian

Stephen Byers, Trade and Industry Secretary, confirmed that he had finalised a "complex" package in time for BMW's board meeting yesterday. The subsidy package is believed to amount to £180m. He expects further talks with BMW in the

next few weeks. Tony Woodley, chief car industry negotiator for the Transport and General Workers trade union, said he was confident that BMW would choose Britain.

"Fifty to sixty thousand jobs depend on this decision, and of course the company understands that and the British government understands that," he

Industry sources said they did not expect an announcement submitted grant applications to until the middle of next week

GKN, the industrial group, yes-terday announced details of a deal to combine its Westland division with Agusta of Italy to create a new European helicopters

Westland is to link up with Agusta, a division of the Italian industrial group Finmeccanica in a 50-50 joint venture. David Wright, an executive director of GKN, will become the chairman.

The deal is likely to delight Michael Heseltine, who first tried to combine Westland with a European group when he was defence secretary in the mid-1980s. Mr Heseltine resigned after the plan was blocked by the then prime minister, Margaret

rescue GKN yesterday stressed that far from being a rescue, Westland and Agusta would form the second largest helicopter manufacturer in the world.

Thatcher, who favoured a US

By ANDREW VERITY

Together they will form one of the world's premier helicopter companies with a broad range of civil and defence products, a strong order book and an exciting programme of new products and technologies," it said in a statement with Finmeccanica.

The deal marks another step forward in the consolidation of the defence and aerospace industries, leaving Europe with just two helicopter manufacturers - Westland/Agusta and Eurocopter, a consortium led by the French group Aerospatiale.

Mr Wright said further Eu-

ropean deals could be in the offing. He declined to rule out a tie-up with Eurocopter-a move that would put Boeing, the world's biggest helicopter maker, on the back foot.

Executives have taken nearly a year to thrash out details of

the deal after appounding the plan in April last year. Yesterday they named Amedeo Caporaletti, president of Agusta, as chief executive. Richard Case. the chief executive of Westland, will be managing director.

More than 4,800 staff will be transferred to the new company, which already has an order book of 26.3bn. A surge in new orders led the group to recruit 500 staff in the last year.

The companies have already worked together to develop the EH101, a three-engined, 15tonne helicopter used by the Royal Navy. A total of 98 EH101s have been ordered by the Royal Air Force, the Italian Navy, the Canadian Armed Forces and a customer in Japan.

Analysts welcomed the deal but said more consolidation was needed. "There are still too many [helicopter groups] across

per cent thanks to the steady housing market. Jepartment stores are faring poorly, with sales down 22 percent in the year to February. Iowever, the retail sales figures lave been er-ratic. The timing of ales around Christmas and NewYear makes them difficult to interpret.

Separately the lank of England reported a slowdown in the growth of broad morey, M4. Its growth rate declined to 7.5 per cent last month. Both the British Bankers'

Association and Building Societies Association reported weak lending in February Underlying growth in home loars remained buoyant, but Abbe National's securitisation of fibn of mortgages depressed the figure.

Adrian Coles, BA directo general, said a big increase in the number of loans approved signalled the possibilit of a spring pick-up in the housing market. Approvals climbec to 1.950 in February, the highest level since September. Other new lending to individuals slowedto £478m in February, well below the recent monthly average.

### AROUND THE WORLD'S MARKETS

LONDON BLUE-CHIP shares yesterday closed lower for the fifth consecutive session, hit by profittaking and worries over the expiry of option contracts.

The FTSE 100 index fell 26.3 to 6,114.3, with many huyers remaining on the sidelines ahead of today's expiry of the March options series, one of the stock market's traditional bugbears. The smaller indices also came under selling pressure, with the FTSE 250 falling 22 to 5,463.3 and the Small Cap ending 1.1 lower at 2.373.8.

Market Report, page 21

### NEW YORK

STOCKS CLUNG to thin gains in late morning trading, with transport and banks highlighting otherwise lacklustre trade. Analysts kept the 10,000 Dow threshold in mind, even though the market held below 9,900 for most of the morning. Any signs of a rally were stifled by bouts of profit taking ahead of today's

derivative expiries. As European bourses closed, the Dow average was up 17.5 points at 9.896.9. The Nasdaq was up 7.9 at 2,446, and the S&P500 was up 5.6 points at 1,303.

#### TOKYO

THE NIKKEI 225 index closed more than 3 per cent down at 15,717.9 amid concern that the benchmark index's recent rise had been excessive. Traders said Sony and the Bank of

Tokyo-Mitsubishi bore the brunt of the profit taking, which intensified towards the close. The heavyweights both fell over 4 per cent. Buying by foreign investors was

the driving force behind the recent rally in the Nikkei average, spurred by hopes Japanese companies are taking long-awaited restructuring steps to steer themselves and the economy back to recovery.

THE CAC 40 closed down 0.42 per cent at 4,152, after earlier failing as low as 4,093. France Telecom weighed on the blue chip index, falling sharply after announcing flat profits for 1998, despite

predictions that deregularisation across Europe's telecom markets would boost profits this year. LVMH rose 4.85 per cent after

the luxury brands group said with its 1998 results that the worst of the Asian crisis was behind it, while Renault climbed 1.9 per cent as worries over its planned tie-up with Nissan receded.

#### FRANKFURT

THE BLUE-CHIP Xetra lax closed down 0.73 per cent at 5,05.8, just above the psychologicaly important 5,000 point level, amid light trade and uncertainty ahead of option expires today,

Deutsche Bank led the

decliners, falling over 3 jer cent after it announced a larger than expected capital increas to fund its Banker's Trust acquistion, while Drescher Bank fell 1.8 per cent on profit taking after its recent rise on the back o its French partner BNP's bd for SocGen and Paribas.



### Sians sh sex video undal'

presidentes has been broaden

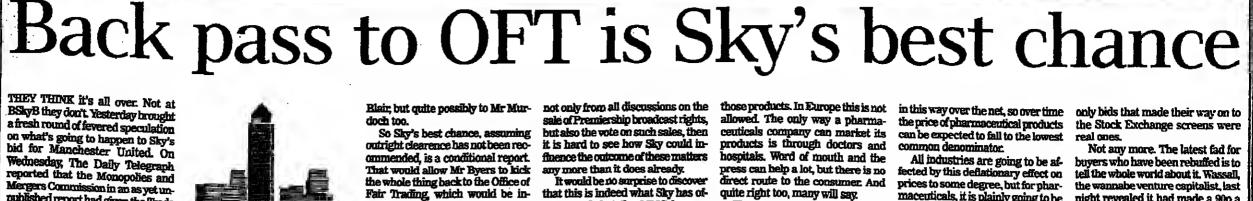
or produced. He from the error unwinder. A REAL PROPERTY PROPERTY OF THE PARTY OF THE an authority seems State BOTHERS readly  $\mathcal{L}_{\mathcal{L}} := \mathcal{L}_{\mathcal{L}} \mathcal{L}_{\mathcal{L}}$ . . He 1972 · D Burred out 1988 12 11 AL 18  $\tau_{T'=-1}\in V^{\infty}$ And of Agent and and ngsamen that M by of dustries المتحالة والمراج والمرج :-:- :: 12 · 67 1. 1. 2.2.60 PERSONAL PROPERTY. Market Balling ... interes promite or STREET, STREET Carrier Carrier & marrie 1 in tente and harries dies. AND RESIDENCE OF STREET ne State (States See 1 will all a SE SECTION AND ADDRESS OF THE PERSON ADDRESS OF THE PERSON AND ADDRESS OF THE PERSON AND ADDRESS OF THE PERSON ADDRESS OF THE PERSON AND ADDRESS OF THE PERSON ADDRESS OF THE PERSON AND ADDRESS OF THE 1856 - 18-L THE THE PARTY . entracts of the Blance Marrie BAR SALL I'm

settles Cuban bil

a cour home insuran

" March or April? TOR MY SHOT OF THE LETTER 2 0800 414 52

16153, 100169 02039V



published report had given the Trade and Industry Secretary little option but to block the bid by finding it to be against the public interest, and further, that the MMC was concerned about the enforceability of any conditions that might address those

public interest concerns. Nonesense, said the Daily Mail yesterday. In fact the deal will be cleared and the Telegraph's story was "maccurate". Without seeing the report, there is little point in at-tempting to predict which of these opposing versions is the correct one. Both of them seem to be guess work, at least in part. Strangely,

however, they could both be true. For reasons that now lie buried in the mists of time, the legislation forces the Secretary of State to go along with the MMC's findings if it recommends clearence, but also allows him to go against the MMC's findings if it recommends the bid be blocked. In other words, he could

OUTLOOK clear the deal whatever the MMC's

For Rupert Murdoch at BSkyB, it is pay back time. Having lent the Blair Government so much support

during the general election, Mr Murdoch wants his pound of flesh. However, even be would probably concede that if the MMC has recoccurrenced an outright block, with no possibility of conditional clearence. then it would be politically extremely difficult for Stephen Byers, the Trade Secretary, to go against those findings. Mr Blair may indeed be beholden to Mr Murdoch, but to be exposed as such - as any such deci-

sion would imply - would be pro-

foundly damaging, not just to Mr

So Sky's best chance, assuming outright clearence has not been recommended, is a conditional report. That would allow Mr Byers to kick the whole thing back to the Office of Fair Trading which would be instructed to negotatiate suitable un-dertakings. Certainly, if there is any way in which the Government can reasonably allow the deal to proceed, then Mr Murdoch would expect it to be taken. If Mr Byers and his mas-ter, Tony Blair, refuse, then they will be punished through the Murdoch ess and through his TV channels.

As can readily be seen, Mr Byers finds himself in a right old pickle. He's dammed if he does, and dammed if he doesn't. The serious point about all this is that it highlights the dangers of allowing undue concentration of media ownership. That concentra-tion forces political parties to curry favour with the likes of Mr Murdoch, which in turn can bring about a semi corrupt distortion to public policy at

are undertakings that Sky could offer which would probably address the most obvious concerns. If Manchester United were to stand aside

Blair, but quite possibly to Mr Mur- not only from all discussions on the those products. In Europe this is not in this way over the net, so over time only bids that made their way on to sale of Premiership broadcast rights, but also the vote on such sales, then it is hard to see how Sky could infinence the outcome of these matters

any more than it does already. It would be no surprise to discover that this is indeed what Sky has offered, and that the MMC has accepted that this might provide a route

#### Avandia ahead

SMITHKLINE BEECHAM is this summer expected to get clearence for the launch of its new diabetes drug, Avandia. FDA approval is expected in June and the roll out in Europe will begin from the Autumn onwards. This is a big thing for SmithKline; Avandia is widely seen as a potential block buster, with huge potential.

In order fully to realise that po-tential, SmithKline wants the right to advertise its new product in Europe. This is already possible in the US, where prescription drugs are widely promoted to the public at large. The result is that doctors and health care plans come under intense public pressure to prescribe

allowed. The only way a pharmaceuticals company can market its products is through doctors and hospitals. Word of mouth and the ress can help a lot, but there is no direct route to the consumer And quite right too, many will say.

However, governments may not be able to resist the tide for much nger. The internet is changing the world before their eyes. Extensive information is available on Avandia through the net, where it is widely listed as a revolutionary new treatment for type two diabetes even though it is not yet available. Despite the ban on advertising, then, extensive brand awareness has already been established.

The net is also going to change the way pharmaceutical products are sold in other ways too. At the moment this is a highly regulated industry in which it is often a criminal offence to sell a product cross border.

For instance, wholesalers are not allowed to import pharmaceutical products into the US from Europe, so if the price is cheaper in Europe, they cannot take advantage of it. On the other hand, there seems little the authorities can do to stop individuals buying their prescription drugs

the price of pharmaceutical products can be expected to fall to the lowest common denominator.

All industries are going to be affected by this deflationary effect on prices to some degree, but for pharmaceuticals, it is plainly going to be more dramatic, if only because the present high degree of regulation causes big price differentials be-It would none the less be wrong

to assume the industry will lose out as a result of these influences. By promoting consumer awareness on the one band, and price transparancy on the other, the net might eventually allow drug companies to charge what they like for their products globally, or put another way, what the market will take, rather than having their prices set by gov-

#### Wassall/BICC

IT USED to be the case that if one company wanted to buy another, it would approach its target and suggest a price. If the recipient said no, the predator would either mount a hostile bid or give up. Either way, the the Stock Exchange screens were

Not any more. The latest fad for buyers who have been rebuffed is to tell the whole world about it. Wassall, the wannabe venture capitalist, last night revealed it had made a 900 a share offer to the board of BICC, the cables and construction company, but had been rejected. The object of the exercise, which does not commit Wassall to doing anything at all, is to embarrass the BICC board before its shareholders and ferment some action. Actually, these shareholders would have preferred a real bid to a

virtual one. This does not mean, however, that BICC deserves to escape. Despite years of restructuring Alan Jones, the chief executive, has failed to revive the company's prospects. Despite this, the company still runs a London beadquarters in Mayfair more suggestive of the FTSE 100 stock it once was than the small cap enterprise it now is.

BICC must, as Wassall has surmised, be worth more than 90p a share, which is little more than half the level of a year ago. But the present management has been unable to realise it.

News Analysis: It's not just badly-paid, low status jobs that are being created but highly-skilled, managerial jobs too

### Jobs rise is leading us to economic nirvana

BY DIANE COYLE **Economics Editor** 

THE NUMBER of Britons in work has never been higher. Official figures released earlier this week showed employment had reached a record level of 27,319,000 or 73.9 per cent of the working-age population. Although unemployment has started to edge up as the economy slows, Britain is working.

Two reports out today raise the hope that the painfully-won improvement in the performance of the jobs market can continue. One from the Institute for Employment Research at Warwick University, predicts that between 1997 and 2006 1.4 1011 116W 10DS WILL DE CTEE More than the expected in-

crease in the population of working age, this will allow unemployment to stay low. While many of the new jobs will be parttime and will employ women, some of the biggest increases in demand will be for professional and technical staff. A second report by the Insti-

tute for Fiscal Studies assesses the Labour Government's changes to the tax and benefit system and the introduction of a national minimum wage. It concludes that the package of measures will make work pay by between £7 and £13 a week extra, depending on individual circumstances. This will increase the probability of people taking a job by around 1 percentage point in most cases.

The two reports add up to a portrait of a labour market where employers are creating jobs and people are more willing to take them. The pessimistic view is that most new jobs are "McJobs" - badly-paid, low status service industry posts. But the reality is considerably more

It is true, according to the TER report, that part-time jobs will account for most of the net job creation during the decade from 1997. And it is also true that the proportion of the workforce that is female will have climbed from 43 per cent to 45 per cent by 2006. But to interpret this as the

Managers and administrators Proffessional occupants Associates proffessional and technical Clerical and secretarial Craft and related Personal and protective service Sales occupants Plant and machine operatives Other occupants Income Expected Work entry out of gain from prob work, £ work, £ % 0.89 1.17 Men:
Single, not living with parents. 0.28
Single, living with parents 0.04
Married, partner working 5.92
Married, partner not working 0.70 Single, no children Single, flying with parents Married, partner working Married, partner not working Changes in employment status, 1997-2006, 000's

creation of second-class jobs is to fall for the myth that the only real jobs are those done by men, preferably in dirty and dangerous conditions. A closer look at the forecasts shows that job creation is taking place in two

One is the "personal and protective services", which includes security guards and carers, and could be made to fit the pessimistic mould. But the other, and by far the bigger category, is in managerial, professional and technical jobs, demanding high levels of education and skill. On average there will be 171,000 a year more jobs in these areas between 1997 and 2006, compared to 77,000 a year in the personal and protective ser-

The IER forecasts big increases in retailing and tourism. While both will need plenty of part-time female employees, they are also in the process of upskilling the available jobs. For example, hotels and restaurants are having to train staff to meet higher standards of food hygiene, make more use of information technology, and fill more demanding managerial roles. Chefs have to be involved in budgeting, reception staff need to work the computer booking sys-

tern and respond to customer demands. Basil Fawity would not keep a job in a modern hotel.

At the same time that demand for labour is increasing, sucking more "economically inactive" people into the jobs market, government policies are helping to boost the supply of labour, according to the Institute for Fiscal Studies

In a report published yesterday, its researchers found that the average entry-level wage for someone who has been unemployed is only two-thirds the level of those in work. This is because employers are less willing to hire someone who has, perhaps, lost the habits and skills needed in the workplace.

wever a number of policies should help to get the unemployed over the initial burdle. The Government is introducing the Working Families Tax Credit and childcare credit, national insurance reforms, a 10p starting tax rate and a minimum

The authors, who include Paul Gregg, a Treasury adviser, find that the national insurance reforms - abolition of the 2 per cent "entry fee" and raising the lower earnings limit - are the most effective at making work more worthwhile. The 10p tax rate is least effective, while the WFTC actually discourages some married people whose

partners are already working. Taken together, though, the package of measures will improve the incentive for unemployed people to take a job. The labour supply should increase.

Taken alongside the relative flexibility of the UK jobs market, this means Britain should be well placed to emulate America's combination of low unemployment with subdued wage pressures. That in turn ought to allow inflation to remain low, and interest rates too. We certainly have not reached economic nirvana, but it is a little closer. ■ Review of the Economy and Employment 1998/99, IER, £80. Contact 01203 524241.

■ Entering Work and the British Tax and Benefit System IFS, £20. Contact 0171 291 4800.



(Estate about £65,000)

(Estate about £45,000)

(Estate about £33.001)

(Estate about £121)001

Legal Notices

DAVIES Ahm William Davies late of Harrow, Middlesex died there on the 3 November 1998

DOYLE Edna Doris Doyle widow late of Tooting, London SW17 died there on 18 November 1998

GANE Frank Thomas Gane late of Hanham, South

FERGUSON Leslie Ferguson late of Sunderland, Tyne and Wear died there on 25 October 1998

HOOPER Dorothy Hooper widow late of Barnt Green.

JOHNSON James Edward Johnson late of Newcastle upon

JOYCE Amos Joyce otherwise Amos James Joyce late of Halifax, West Yorkshire died there on 27 December 1996

LANE Remerty STEWART formerty FARGEON noe KALAMEES Erica Lane formerty Stewart formerty Furgeon nee Kalamees single woman late of Epsom, Surrey died Cobham, Surrey on

MANN, NEE BYERS Jane Mann otherwise Jennie Mann, nee

NAVRACSICS Antal Navracsics late of Wimbledon, London

The kin of the above named are requested to apply to the Treasury Solicitor (B.V.), Queen Anne's Chambern, 28 Broadway, London SW [H 918, falling which the Treasury Solicitor may take steps to administer the

The Insulvency Act 1986 IT SOFTWARE SOLUTIONS LTD

NOTICE IS HEREBY CIVEN purs

NOTICE IS HEREBY CIVEN pursuant to Section 98 of the Institutory And 1985 that a MEETING of the CREDITORS of the above named Company will be held on 7th April 1999 at The Old Salery, Lower Gower Road, Royston, Hers, at 10.00 am for the purposes mentioned an Section 99 et seq of the said Act.
NOTICE IS FURTHER CIVEN that Assurice Raymond Domington, FIPA of Poppleton & Appletor, 4 Chaneriouse Sessies, London, ECAM Policia approximated to act as the qualified Insolvency Practitioner pursuant to Section 9807(a) of the said Act who will furnish creditors, free of charge, with such information concerning the Company's allians as they maky reasonably require.

Deted this 15th day of March 1999 By Order of the Bound Robert Hardy, Dwettor

Gloucestershire died at Bristol on 2 November 1998

### **CLASSIFIED**

Arts & Crafts

### CREATIVE BEADCRAFT LTD

Also trading as **ELLS & FARRIER** 

Specialists in

BEADS

SEQUINS

DIAMANTE AND

LUREX BRAIDS

IMITATION PEARLS

JEWELLERY FINDINGS

LARGEST SELECTIONS OF ITEMS AVAILABLE FROM STOCK

MAIL ORDER **CATALOGUE** AVAILABLE £3.50

MAIL ORDER & ENOUIRIES (WHOLESALE AND RETAILERS)

Denmark Works, Beamond End, Amersham, Bucks HP7 ORX

Tel: (01494) 715606 Fax: (01494) 718510 Personal callers:

20 Beak Street, London W1R 3HA

**Public Notices** THE CARNEGIE UNITED KINGDOM TRUST

33,986,109 1,285,913 35,272,022 32,810,258

Incoming resources Realised and unrealised 1,712,474 J,639,482 2,396,046 (1,646,756) 4,092,986 (3,622,847) 2,461,764 4,109,621 C JOHN NAYLOR Secretary and Treasurer Comety Park House, Dr 17th March 1900

Scottisk former in North East location requires five in housekeeper(cook for busy spring period - 23 months. Honest friendly nature essential. Receives free board and sensible remuneration would aid someone who wants to escape the city for a break. Single mothers welcome. Plenty of room, fresh air and All replies to Box no: 196406 The independent Classifieds 17th Floor, 1 Canada Square Canary Wharf, London E14 SDL

Chat Lines

(Estate about £14,000)

The widow and kin of the above named are requested to apply to the Treasury Solicitor (B.V.), Queen Anne's Chambers, 28 Broadway. London SW1H 9/8, failing which the Treasury Solicator may take steps to



Charities

CHILDREN ON DIALYSIS need our love and practical support, not just today but every day. Sadly, money cannot buy healthy kidneys but it can

make life worth having. The British Kidney Patient Association
Pondon, Hants. GU35 9JZ
270288 Donations urgently needed by



### The Index-Tracking PEP

Source Macropal LGIM. Legal & General FTSE All-Share Index-Tracking FEP on an offer to bid hasts based on all PEP charges with genes meaner techniques from Ol. 11.95. I stace. Lunch! 100.10.159. Past performance is not necessarily a colde to future performance is not necessarily a colde to future performance. From 06.04.09 for a colde to future performance. From 06.04.09 for a colde to 1% dividend distributions will only be able to be reclaimed by PEPs at a reduced rate of 10%. Both capital and meome values may go down as well as up and you may not get back the amount invested. Full written details are available on Gowan as well as up and you may not get back the amount invested. Full written details are available to amount invested. Full written details are available. Government have amounteed that contributions can only be made to PEPs until April 1909. From that date a new text presieged savings vertacle, the individual Savings Account (ISA) will be available. Legal & General History Limited. Registered in England No. 270.2000. Registered Office: Temple Contr., Il Queen Vernaria State! London ECIN TP. Repenentative only of the legal & General maniscing group, members of which are regulated by the Personal Investment Authority and IMEO for the purposes of recommending, advasing on and aching life assurance and amestment products bearing Legal & General's name.

81.45%\* growth in just over 3 years from the All-Share Index-Tracking PEP

> Call freephone 0500 11 66 22

Please quote ref: D5DJ15

Sam to Spm weekdays, 9am to 5pm weekends.



Unusual Gifts

care value) £12.623.00, APR 8.4%. Author charges may be mad 33.75. Total charge for credit 52,435.25 (includes a finance facility fee of £70, payable with the first partial manager condition if the vehicle is returned at the end of the finance agreement. Written quotations

Final   Sail Bay   +  Til	Pacific   State   St
The state of the s	Recovery Acc
## 49.5 S.2.5 0.25 0.25 0.25 0.25 0.25 0.25 0.25	Call Horn   Acc   Call   Cal
10. Carlo General 4511 442 0.05 5.75 5.90   W. Growth General 4511 492 0.07 73 1.05 5.00   W. Growth General 4511 492 0	UK Strutistics A \$65.90 (etc)   7.00 1.00 1.00 1.00 1.00 1.00 1.00 1.00
Paragraph   Para	Comparison   Com
Constraint   Con	0 (15 hr in . 512.90 560.75 - 4.60 D.472 500 190.25 Smiller (0) C 52.75 Bill 3.00 2.95 0 00 190.00 1
September   Sept	Part
Comparison   Com	Pich A Rec   124   101   101   100
Empirion Canada 27.50 1910 72.0 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10	Figure Acc   139.70   198.00 - 159   0.00   4.90   Figure 10   13.00 - 159   0.00   4.90   6.00
Nacisfried 2019-33 222-30 -100 133 800 Nacisfried 2019-35 2019	
Secretary   From the State   Secretary	Salarcad Acc 132.0 193.50 -1.10 1.65 5.50 Interval Acc 133.0 193.0 1.10 1.0 1.0 1.0 1.0 1.0 1.0 1.0 1.0
Control   Cont	Sept.   Sept
Fight recovered   17.94   19.02   1.40   1.61   1.40   1.61   1.62   1.61   1.62   1.61   1.62   1.61   1.62   1.61   1.62   1.62   1.61   1.62   1	Section   Col.
Control   12 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0	High Tried Board   100.90   11.550   0.11 - Garx 4.90   Norm   29.74   0.10 - 1.00   0.00   5.50   Ada Placific   15.54   16.44 - 0.17   0.91X 4.95   Norm   29.74   0.10 - 1.00   0.00   5.50   Ada Placific   15.54   16.44 - 0.17   0.91X 4.95   Norm   29.74   0.10 - 1.00   0.00
Capital Constitution	10   10   10   10   10   10   10   10
Proceedings   11	Congrain Bard (21   E.Z.) Red   487 485 5.00   688 5.00   688 5.00   688 6.00
### Comparison   10   10   10   10   10   10   10   1	### A STATE OF THE PARTY OF THE
Contract	Continue
Complete	### PACKED STATE   100 100 100 100 100 100 100 100 100 1
15-40   110   15-70   110	Part
Survival   Particles   1200    Particles	10   10   10   10   10   10   10   10
Section   Sect	7.5   Monthyler-Planks   C4,27   122.28   -0.15   8.50   3.70   12.75   17.16   0.97   5.00   12.75
Compared	00 Weightfulfforty FSS E CALS 4-45 0.887 5-2   K. Garden M.O. 00.57 4-77 2.04 5-0   K. Sporikintst 184.70 184.50 1-20 1.70 5.00   Weightfulfforty FSS E CALS 4-45 0.887 5-2   K. Sporikintst 184.70 184.50 1-20 1.70 5.00   Weightfulfforty FSS E CALS 4-47 0.30 5-2   K. Sporikintst 184.70 184.50 1-20 1.70 5.00   Weightfulfforty FSS E CALS 4-47 0.30 5-2   Weightfulfforty FSS E CALS 4-7 0.30 5-2   Weightfulffort
Contract	Pertinue   1.00   1.0

### Time for Europe to celebrate spending

HOW DO you persuade people to spend more money? This might seem a novel problem, for here in Britain there has never been much difficulty in stoking up a consumer boom: all you have to do is cut interest rates.

We also build the temples to consumerism, the physical entities designed to encourage people to part with their cashas the Bluewater complex, the largest shopping centre in Europe - shows. And we have, by European though not by US standards, long shopping hours. But in Euroland this happy

state of affairs does not invariably exist. Some countries are booming. The Netherlands, Denmark and Ireland are all growing fast, helped by solid growth in consumption. But elsewhere, particularly in Germany and Italy, growth is slow. Indeed overall, continental European consumption remains pretty stagnant, giving rise to the worrying thought that core Europe might catch the Japanese disease, where interest rate cuts and fiscal packages fail to stimulate any growth at all.

Both Germany and Italy are quite close to slipping back into recession, with negative growth in the last quarter of the year. Neither can rely on exports to pull the economy up this spring investment is pretty flat and government spending is constrained by the Maastricht is a first stage in the response rules. So the only source of de- to it. But while it is early enough

like Aborts

m cast land

Shafting ori

ahrara mis

an Unepoes

L'ind but engi

Garden 🛬

No. Worker

The work is

in the same

Catholine

e is and late

Pare

All Sign

2010/03/2

A STATE OF

··· satisfies

le iffenten

7 1 may 20

40.00

1

あっ (学文)

1. 1. 1. 2.

art the HEL

2012/19/02

· · · · · · · 42.

Section 1988

to the second

1000

Apr. 1045

ritish

is that he can

The Appear

What is less obvious is what is as the introduction of the euro actually happening to consumption, for European consumers are saying that they are confident but they are not buying much more. The divergence between reported consumer confidence and reported business confidence is striking (see graph). Taking the euro-11 as a the UK. Rapid growth, an open whole, ordinary people have seldom been more cheerful about their economic prospects. By contrast, the business community is plunging back into gloom. For most of the last two decades the two have moved together, so this divergence is puzzling. What is the explanation? Does it matter? And if so what is to be done?

The explanation comes in several parts. First, the confidence levels of European business have been depressed by lack of confidence in the governments in Germany, France figures don't add up is that they and Italy. The most notorious anti-business minister, "Red how they could be wrong in this Oskar", has been heaved out, which is a start, but immense damage has been done to the German business community's

As anyone who has had even a brief conversation with a German business leader in recent months will have found, within about three minutes the fury would begin to erupt. They thought they were the heroes of the German prosperity (which, of course, they were) and ac-



**HAMISH** MCRAE

With consumption stagnant, core Europe could catch the Japanese disease

cordingly they would be listened to (which they weren't.) Similar, though more muted concerns inflict some French industrialists, and while it is hard to make any sensible generalisations, it is probably also true that medium-sized businesses in Italy, the ones that matter, retain their traditional scepticism towards the government of the

But it is not just politics. European business also knows it faces a new and more competitive world with the transparency of pricing with the euro. The wave of reconstructions, mergers and other deals mand has to be the consumer to feel the fears, it is too early That is obvious enough, to perceive the benefits. In as far does anything to business confidence, I suspect that, so far at

least, it has reduced it. Finally, euroland business confidence will have been depressed by the fall off in demand from what has until recently been its best export market attitude towards imported goods, strong sterling and a high propensity to import has made the UK a very attractive Now that growth here is easing. that market has weakened, though this has yet to show up in the import numbers.

If it is easy to explain European commercial gloom it is much harder to explain European consumer cheer, particularly because it does not seem to be translated into spending.

The usual explanation when are wrong, but I can't quite see instance. Euroland has a population of 290 million so any survey of consumer opinion is going to be a very broad-brush effort. But if these people say they are confident I see no reason to try and question that. The puzzle is more that if they are indeed confident, why are they not spending more?

I have two possible explanations to offer. The first - not very good one - is that the consumer spending figures have

going on in the cash economy rather than in the taxed one.

So people are more confident, but their reaction to the higher taxation needed to meet the Maastricht targets has encouraged them to spend their money in ways which minimises the tax-take.

The second is that the shift to a near-zero inflation world has changed buying patterns, delaying purchases. So consumers feel more confident, but they also see no need to rush out and buy now. Things may be cheaper next year

What is to be done depends on what is wrong. But we may not be able to risk waiting for explanations if demand continues to remain flat. The range of policy options is really quite limit-

Governments can't ease fiscal policy without busting the Maastricht rules - indeed they used a lot of creative accounting to get within them. Monetary policy is outside their control, and in any case may be much less effective than it used

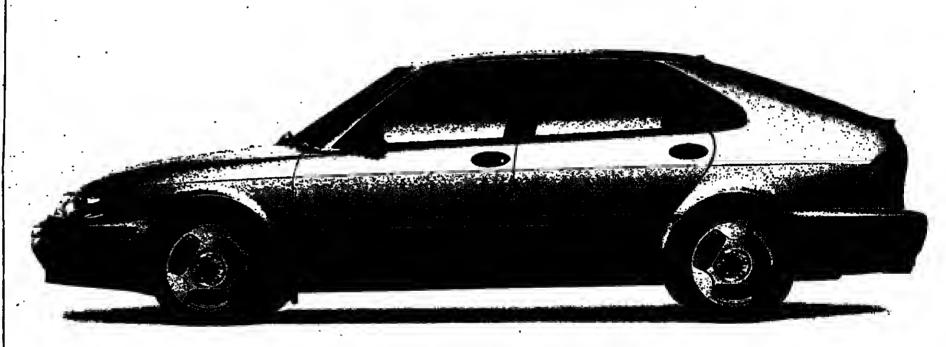
become unreliable, perhaps to be. When interest rates are that additional spending is now down in the 3 per cent region, you may not achieve much but cutting the odd half percentage point off rates. When they were in double digits then a sharp cut in rates was at least noticed. In any case a cut in short-term rates might have the opposite effect to that intended if longterm rates rose as a result.

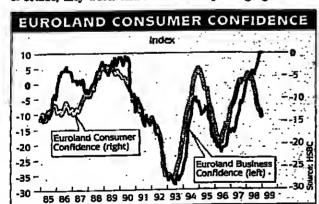
No, the only available policy is structural reform. In that sense Euroland is in pretty much the same position as Japan - fiscal and monetary policies are unavailable or ineffective, so you have only one further thing you can do. But structural policies - removing labour market rigidities, easing business regulation, changing planning controls and so on carry costs too. Consumption in Euroland will not remain flat for ever, but developing a culture which celebrates spending (as America does and Britain seems to be trying to do) takes a long time. The great European consumption boom may not come in time to rescue the world economy when the US



economy eventually slackens. The Bluewater complex, near Dartford, is the largest shopping centre in Europe







#### IN BRIEF

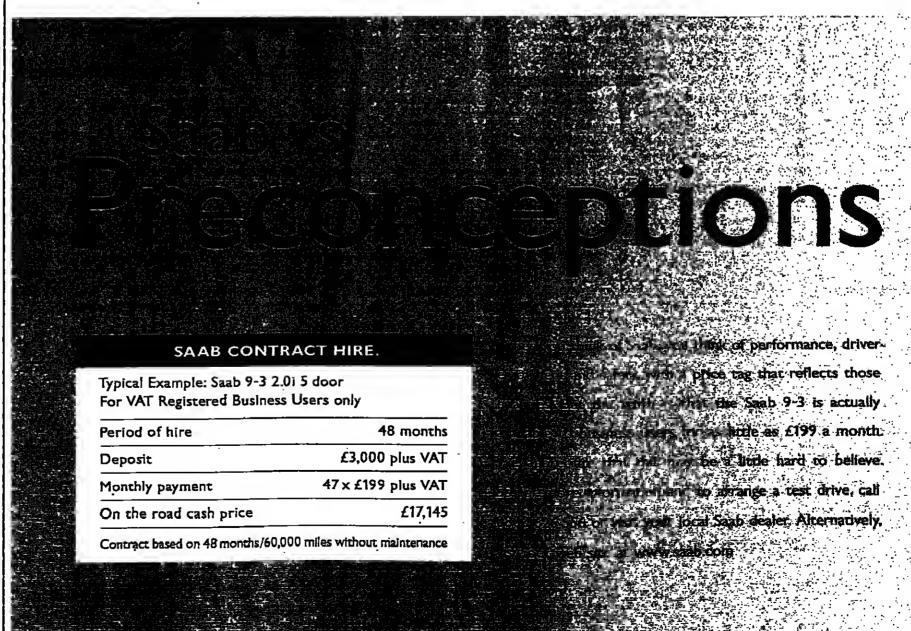
William Morrison launches price campaign as profits rise 15.5%

WILLIAM MORRISON SUPERMARKETS, the Bradford-based food retailer, yesterday launched a new price campaign as it reported a strong set of full-year results. Morrison has launched "Price Mission Plus" promising more than £100m of cost savings through a range of special offers. The group's low price policy has paid off with profits up by 15.5 per cent to £174.9m. Same store sales rose by 7.3 per cent on the previous year if petrol sales are included. Analysts were impressed and the shares rose 18.5p to 298.5p.

Unigate renews Terranova attack UNIGATE, the food and dairy group that has launched a \$228.5m hostile bid for Terranova Foods, made a further attack on its target saying the company faces "an uncertain future" as a small independent company. It said that shares in an independent Terranova could return to pre-bid speculation levels (75p). Terranova shares closed unchanged at 137p against Unigate's 125p per share offer Terranova has rejected the bid as "opportunistic and inadequate".

Merger activity boosts Axa

AXA, the French insurance giant buying Guardian Royal Exchange for £3.4bn, yesterday said it had made Ffr2bn (£360m) in four days because of merger activity in the French banking sector. Claude Bébéar, the chairman, also confirmed he had given his prior approval of the hostile bid by Banque Nationale de Paris for its rivals Société Générale and Paribas, increasing the value of Axa's shareholdings. Mr Bébéar added that it was inevitable that the Sun Life and Guardian Royal Exchange would eventually be renamed Axa. The group recorded net income up 27 per cent to 1.53bn euros (£1.1bn). Earnings per share rose 21.5 per cent.



INDEMNITIES MAY BE REQUIRED IN CERTAIN CIRCUMFTANCES. CAR SHOWN FITTED WITH OPTIONAL ALLOY WHEELS

33.75. Total charge for credit 62,435.95 (includes a finance facility fee of 670, pay

THE INDEPENDENT

MAIN MOVERS See the Res RISES 145 25 Bester 145 515 Legalities 220 303 Besteld Sa Ball-Fit Hid 435.50 -5.53 7713 715 Perinated 7765 8.0 8.0 22.0 7621 123 152 S. 102.7 Cpt 1245 25 36 191 6621 688 454 Septith & Prior 477.0 x 63 8.0 28.3 2284 CSC 459 127 623000 471.5 40 55 144 1285 -0158 -127 -2.00 1.22 MARKET LEADERS TOP 20 VOLUMES at 5pm FTSE 100 INDEX HOUR BY HOUR 1855 B.0 84.8 1878 S2 week 1874 Law Start 1874 B.9 12.9 15.1 4264 201 17.2 Ann to 52 14.4 Ann to **¥**THE INDEPENDENT THE INDEPENDENT ON SUNDAY For all the latest financial and market information call The Independent Teleshare 24-hour access to UK share prices in real-time Call 09001 201 200 **Portfolio Service** Call Oa7 000 4200

All Notice in certain per children Call 0870 600 4200 All 09001 calls cost 60p per minute 81 52 Aggregan mai 259 1691 Aragina Baggarotap Bri 199 69 Baggarotap 1174 Bri 21 Bagy Go 58 53 Bereiman 197 8 Bara 200 198 Baggarota Di 199 Baggarota Bri 199 85 Pohyopa 199 875 Baggarota Bri 199 87 Pohyopa 199 875 Baggarota Bri 199 87 Pohyopa 199 875 Baggarota Bri 199 87 Pohyopa 199 875 Baggarota Bri 199 875 Baggarota Bri 199 87 Pohyopa 199 875 Baggarota Bri 199 875 B

First I

Tariffe Co.

OP Min 150

THE INDEPTNDENT

---

Freder 1st March 1949

Relieved

to listen

to Dialog

BY PETER THAL LARSEN

DIALOG IS poised to unveil a

number of software licensing

and strategic partnership deals

that will allow the information

services group to boost growth

Dan Wagner, chief executive,

said the company would prob-

ably make announcements in

the next few weeks. "We would

not be making these kinds of

statements if we weren't close

Include Dialog licensing its Infosoft software, which auto-

matically categorises Internet

documents, to others. It may

also sign up strategic investors

The announcements, when

for its e-commerce division.

The deals are thought to

and pay down debt.

to a number of things."

City ready

### First Choice up on Airtours talk

IS AIR TOURS planning to disrupt the marriage between First Choice and its Swiss partner Kuoni? The market was awash with rumours that the UK's second-largest tour operator was about to turn the no-premium merger between its two rivals into a three-way scramble for the best seats in the European holiday market.

The smart money was on a 220p-a-share hostile bid for First Choice, owner of Unijet and Hays & Jarvis. The offer would value the UK travel group at a sunny £742m, leaving Knoni, the posh holiday specialist, out in the cold.

Airtours offered the customary "no comment" but the prospect of a juicy premium prompted traders to check in with First Choice in the hope of booking future gains. Some suggested that the battle of the tour operators could become even hotter, with the German group Preussag also willing to put its towel on First Choice.

First Choice stock travelled almost 11 per cent higher to close at 178.5p, close to its five-year peak. Volume was

SANDWICH BANK & Crust Company is on its way back to Ofex after a sixmonth absence. Shares in the maker of own-brand sandwiches were

suspended at 12.5p in September to carry out a refinancing. Yesterday the company asked for one more month to put its house in order. It said it was close to appointing a chief executive and that the refinancing was "well under way". The stock should resume trading in mid-April.

also sky-high with over 3.6 million shares traded. Airtours nosedived 6p to 490p as investors fretted at the costs

An Airtours-First Choice link would be a travel powerbouse, with a big presence in package holidays and a market value of £2.8bm. It would overtake Thomson, down 8p to 179p, as the largest seller to 966p after announcing its of bolidays to sun and snow- much-leaked belicopter deal

seeking Brits. However, it could ran into competition problems as it blue chips came from P&O would control one in four hol- and EMI. The ferry and iday trips originating in the cruise group sailed to the top UK, even though a recent anti-trust inquiry deemed the industry fragmented and competitive enough.

The rest of the index caught the holiday bug, with several buyers taking time off in the run-up to today's expiry of the March options, a periodic market worry.

The buyers' strike and a bit of profit-taking left the FTSE 100 down 26.3 points at 6,114.3. after an opening rally on Wall

Turnover (£)

MARKET REPORT



FRANCESCO GUERRERA

Street had helped to claw back earlier losses. The junior indices also ended in the red: the midcap shed 22 to finish at 5,463.3, while the small cap fell 1.1 to 2,373.8.

Diageo led the blue-chip retreat, fizzing up 34.5p to 673.5p. The drinks group was spiked by a remark from the LVMH chairman Bernard Arnault; the colourful Mr Arnault said his French luxury goods group was planning to sell its 11 per cent stake in Diageo within three years.

Cadbury Schweppes showed its alcoholic rival a thing or two. The stock sparkled 23p higher to 890p on rumours that Merrill Lynch had set a 1,125p target price. The broker DKB also helped by repeating its "buy" advice.

about a cyclical downturn.

Rolls-Royce spun 11.75p

lower to 255p, followed by

Smiths Industries, down

33.5p to 919.5p. GKN fell 21.5p

increase to 790p. The music

company was also on song.

rising 20.25p to 418.5p. Today

institutions wanted to stock up

before meeting the new boss,

Electricity groups were

powering ahead. Goldman

Sachs switched on Power-

Gen, up 18p to 692p, with an

upgrade after some price

weakness. The bank also

COMPANY RESULTS

with Agusta.

Eric Nicoli.

biotechnology company, is attracting institutional interest amid talk that The aerospace brigade lost altitude amid bearish noises positive news about its drugs is imminent. The SHARE SPOTLIGHT shares rose by 6.5p to 42.5p yesterday after wellshare price, pence received presentations to FIRST CHOICE investors. Nomura has taken a

PROTEUS, the

shine to the company and now holds a stake of about 9 per cent. There are whispers of a clinical breakthrough in Proteus's hypertension or prostate cancer compounds.

pushed Scottish & South-

ern Energy with a reminder

of its 700p target price. The

shares buzzed 25p higher to

after the Saudis agreed some

supply cuts. Shell, still look-

ing for a partner, jumped 15p to 412p, while BP Amoco

struck a 27p advance to 1,028p

For once the minnows fol-

lowed the giants. Enterprise

firmed 27.25p to 340p, and its

would-be merger companion Lasmo rose 3.75p to 138.25p.

Gaelic Resources, the Irish

exploration group, put on 0.25p to 1.5p after it placed 44

million shares with rival De-

sire Petroleum at 1.25p, rais-

on the oil frenzy, losing 0.5p to

spring sales mood despite re-

cent sets of depressing official

retail data. Marks & Spencer

137p after poor results.

British Borneo missed out

Clothing chains were in

ing £550,000.

a five-year peak.

slid 13.75p to 379p, while Arcadia headed the midcappers' fallers with a 14p slump

Among other retailers, Kinglisher suffered from further profit taking and closed 26p lower at 767p, while Morrison, the Northern supermarkets chain, bucked the trend and soared 18p to 298.5p after a set of solid results.

Norbain, the security products seller, looked very unsafe The good news from the after letting 27.5p escape to close at 212.5p. The culprit was a profits warning and a gloomy statement on the UK of the FTSE 100 pile with a 40p

A profits warning also cracked Churchill China, the houseware group. A 9.5p fall to 86p was the final damage. Goldsmiths, the jeweller, put on a precious 14p to end

is "Investor Day" at EMI and the day at 181.5p after confirming a 183p-a-share management buyout.

> SEAQ VOLUME: 1.17bn SEAQ TRADES: 86,766 GILTS INDEX: 116.32 +0.13

> > Pay day

02.07.99

12.05.99 27.05.99 10a 02.07.99 25.06.99 23.04.99

X-div

### Kwik-Fit gets back on road to recovery

KWIK-FIT HOLDINGS, the tyres BY NIGEL COPE and exhaust group that issued a profits warning in January, appeared to get back on the road to recovery yesterday when it reported better trading

543p. National Grid, up 13p to in the past few months. 431.25p, and Scottish Power. Although underlying profits 10p higher at 539p, completed the utilities' party day. Oils were in demand as the were flat at £58.7m for the year to February, the company said price of Brent rose overnight

it had seen an uplift in trading in January, February and March. This followed the warning in January that unusually mild weather in December had meant that fewer drivers had their cars serviced.

The trading update caused a 34.5p per cent jump in Kwik-Fit's shares to 439.5p as several brokers upgraded their forecasts. However, some analysts were sceptical about the rise, saying that the pre-tax profit figure of £64m included £8.9m of property asset sales and that the underlying profit outcome was below City expectations.

Last year was a busy one for Sir Tom Farmer's group. It included two acquisitions, principally the £64m purchase of Speedy International, a chain of 568 tyre and exhaust centres in France, Belgium, Spain and

It also acquired the remain-

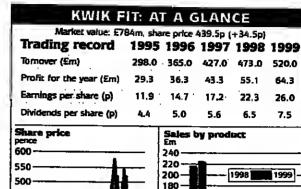
**Associate City Editor** 

clinics, a group of 70 car services and MOT test centres. Sir Tom Farmer said that st year had been a solid one for Kwik-Fit, with the group outperforming in its main markets. It increased its tyre volumes by 5 per cent against a market up by just 1 per cent. In exhausts its volumes rose by 5 per cent

against an overall market down

1 per cent. The group's strategy is to increase its dominance in the UK where it has 860 branches, while breaking into new territories overseas. The group's critics say the company is already nearing saturation point in this country, with 22 per cent of the tyre market and onethird of the exhausts market.

Although Kwik-Fit claims that this leaves plenty of scope for expansion, trading conditions have become tougher. Components such as exhausts are lasting longer, and new rivals such as car dealers are increasing their presence in servicing and offering longer warranties. Other problems include customers trading down to cheaper tyres, while the fall in part prices has had



160 -

100-

94 95 96 97 98 99 The company is trying to expand its added-value services business with the launch of insurance policies for break-

down and travel. These policies got off to good start when they were launched three years ago, but growth has

since slowed. Insurance profits were

squeezed in the second half due

have accelerated at a pace that any boy racer would be proud of over the past five years, with a market outperformance of 53 per cent.

er problems have also impeded growth rates. Kwik-Fit shares

But on current-year forecasts of £63m they trade on a forward multiple of 18. That looks high enough for now,

in new business as French,

German and Italian markets

Analysts yesterday said that

made, will help to speed Dialog's rehabilitation after a disastrous profits warning last year. The varning shattered confidence in Dialog's management, which had promised it would revive revenue growth after it took over Knight-Ridder Information, the online information group, in a reverse takeover late n 1997. Diolog shares lost two-

thirds of their value, touching a low of 47p in January. Mr Wagner admitted that the company had promised too much. He said that in the future

Dialog would take a more measured approach. That was underlined by yesterday's full-year results, which showed Dialog reporting pre-exceptional prein setting up international life tax profits of £8.4m. The figures. in line with expectations, were insurers, to expand into Europe. It anticipates a boom

greeted with a 9.5p rise in the shares to 95p. "The market is basically breathing a huge sigh of relief," said Patrick Yau of Nomura Securities. Others said Dialog's reas-

surance that it would be able to meet its debt repayment targets for the current year also helped. The company finished last year with a debt load of \$256.6m (£157m). Apart from interest payments, it is due to repay \$21.9m this year. Mr Wagner said Dialog was considering restructuring its debt, but he

ruled out another rights issue. From April, Dialog is due to be reclassified in the Internet subsector of the market IT index. Dialog looks undervalued, but the City will probably take a little more convincing

1 SPOTTED Christopher Mor-

from Deloitte & Touche, trotting

insolvency specialists, is the

lead liquidator of BCCL a task

went bust eight years ago. If any creditor of BCCI wants to know

what happened to those fees.

they need look no further than

Cheltenham. (Only joking!)

Mr Morris, one of Britain's

ris, the distinguished receiver

### St James to sell stake in LAHC

ST JAMES Place Capital, the BY ANDREW VERTTY financial group, yesterday indicated that it was on the verge of selling a stake in the so-called life insurance "vulture fund", LAHC, as the group announced a 67 per cent profits boost in 1998.

The company, founded by life insurance guru Sir Mark Weinberg, said that profits of £86.3m had been lifted by a 20 per cent jump in new business generated by its sales force and by a better-than-average investment performance.

Sir Mark, the group chairman, said St James Place had appointed Morgan Stanley as advisers to sell a 23 per cent stake in LAHC - the Life Assurance Holding Corporation. LAHC buys ailing life insurers and runs them as a closed book of business.

in spite of a giant contribution to the annual results from LAHC - up from £3.7m to £17.6m in 1998 – flowing from the purchase of GAN Life (UK) and Aegon Life (UK), the troubled life insurers.

"We will dispose of LAHC when a convenient opportunity presents itself," said Sir "We like the business and

there is still a lot to do, but it will need more capital invested as it goes on to make bigger acsitions. We want to dispose of it because its profits tend to be either feast or famine, which is a different shape from our St James is instead pursuing

a strategy of organic growth. Last year the board appointed



international business. Until

### St James had produced a solid set of figures in line with expectations, but pointed out that the company was trading on a much more generous multiple than its peers.

now, the international life business has been geared to offshore sales to UK customers, representing 15 per cent of

Now, Sir Mark wants Mr

The shares rose against the market to close up by 2.5p at 284.5, valuing the group at £1.15bn. Charles Landa of SG Secu-

rities said that this data rated the group at more than four times its embedded value of 68p a share - over twice the level of most of its peers. But the quality of the business justifies the shares as a hold, said Mr

#### Spin doctor's day out

THE HORSES took second place to a fascinating confrontation yesterday hetween Charlie Whelan, Chancellor Gordon Brown's former press adviser, and Ben Wegg-Prosser, the disturbingly youthfullooking former personal adviser to Peter Mandelson. It was Mr Mandelson, of course, who was forced to resign as trade secretary due to a leak about a certain home in Notting Hill, London, which he blamed

on his political rival Mr Brown. Observers licked their lips at the prospect of a meeting, but were disappointed to see them deep in chummy conversation. Mr Whelan later said: "Tm doing much better than him, at least I've found a new job. I've

been giving him a few tips." 1 also learnt that Mr Whelan performed the entire "Heart of Midlothian" to a fascinated andience the previous night to cel-

5.43 0.04 4.16 -0.01 5.21 -0.01 3.92 -0.02 3.91 -0.03 4.17 -0.03 4.17 -0.03 4.17 -0.03 4.17 -0.02 4.04 -0.03 4.17 -0.02 4.14 -0.01 2.34 -0.02

5.22 5.15 5.235.15 3.01 3.01 3.023.02

ebrate St Patrick's Day. Mr Whelan has not been idle since leaving Number 11, all column for the

PEOPLE AND as well as designing the lovable be recently bet £140,000 on a Business



CHELTENHAM Diary

By John WILLCOCK

Observer and occasional pieces for this very organ. He is also doing the usual "this and that".

### Tubby rewards

ANOTHER CHARMING chap I humped into at Cheltenham was Jonathan Hills, the original designer and creator of BBC television's Teletubbies. Mr Hills is a distinguished illustrator and film maker who,

film, Una Estraveganza de Medici, which won the Prix d'Italia. He has also designed

the TV Anglia flag on telly. Mr Hills is, bowever, a retiring and modest chap, saying that it was the vision of his cothe Teletubbies phenomenon

When I asked him about only managed to come second. professional fees since the bank ories in the press that the Mr McManus is part of a went bust eight years ago. If any stories in the press that the BBC had undersold the series tightly knit group of racing in the vital American market. he said that in fact Auntie Beeb had made at least £40m from the series, and that Ms Wood had made at least don-

#### Big punter

ONE of the great racing personalities that regularly makes an appearance at Cheltenham is JP McManus the Irish owner and punter, dubbed "The Man the Bookies Fear". A bet of £20,000 would be a

small affair for Mr McManus, and no cash needs to change hands when he bets, a nod being good enough. According to race track lore

mains value) £19,693.00. APR 8.4%. Further charges may be made 33.75. Total charge for credit £2,435.95 (includes a finance facility fee of £70, payable with the first or mileage/condition if the vehicle e returned at the end of the finance agreement. Whitten or which the first

characters, has also directed a series of three bets and lost on Fees received trabraq, was "hottest favourite all week", and duly won the Smurfit Champion Hurdle

Challenge Trophy on Tuesday towards the betting booths.

Mr McManus also owns Le Mr Morris, one of Britain Coudray a leading contender creator Ann Wood that drove for the Stayers Hurdle yesterday unfortunately Le Coudray that has run up over £600m in

pals including John Magnier, the race horse owner, Joe Lewis, the Bermudan based financier who was involved in the Enic bid for Wembley Sta-

unexpected departure earlier

this week of Warburg kingpin

Hans de Gier was "mishan-

dled by Warburg and mishan-

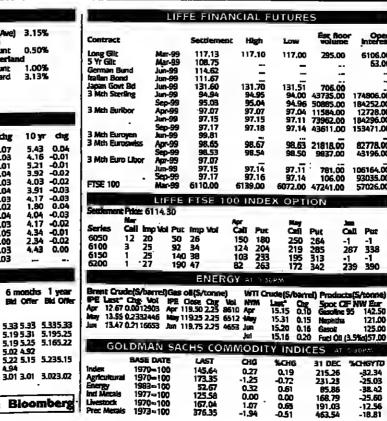
dled by Hans de Gier".

### Last roundup Lost kingpin

ANOTHER KEEN punter was Howard Bell, chief executive of Provident Financial, the firm OTHER LUMINARIES at the that provides door-to-door Festival included Oliver loans. Mr Bell said the compa-Pawle, the high-powered corny has spent £10m expanding porate finance executive forinto Poland and Czech Repubmerly of UBS and now of lic. He seemed to be spending Warburg Dillon Read. Mr near that at the bookies. Pawle fully admits that the

Just for the record, it would be a good idea if Great Western Railways sorted out its reservation policy on its trains running to the course for next year; these were a sad fiasco.

litera Contro S		14,550 * Protorma	(14L66m)	7.10	to (Srauri)	•	(qc-cg qn.	120	-W				W	riting	g a footb	all co	umi	1 for
(F) - Float (I						_					-							
		FORFIG	IN EXC	HANGE	<b>RATES</b>							INTER	EST	RAT	ES			
Country	Sterling Spot		3 monti	Dollar	1 month	3 month	Euro	UK Base		50%	D	enmark Secount	5.25 3.25	-	Repo Japan Disco		3.15 0.50	
UK Australia Austria Belgium Canada Denmark	1.0000 2.5855 20.398 59.800	2.5846 20.367 59.680 2.4785 10.996	2.584° 20.375 59.467	0.6132 1 1.5854 5 12.508 7 36.669 8 1.5202 2 6.7548	0.6134 1,5855 12.506 36,610 1,5204 6,7457	0.6136 1.5857 12.502 36.489 1.5204 6.7263	1.5727 7.4323	Europea O/N Mar O/N Faci Repo Canada Prime	ghal4. Bity 2.0 3.0	50%	P	is rime discount ed Funds weden	7.75 4.50	% %		zerlan Xunt		96
Euro Finland France	11.016 1.4821 8.8140 9.724 2.8993 476.29	8.7963 9.705	8.7649 9.670	5.4047 5.9627	5.3960 5.9532 1.7750 293.15	5.3782 5.9335 1,7692 295.13	5.9457 6.5596					BON	O YI	ELDS				
Germany Greece Hong Kong Ireland Italy Japan Malaysia Mexico Netherland New Zealar Norway Portugal Saudi Arabi Singapore South Afric Spain	12.638 1.1675 2870.3 191.86 6.1967 15.7729 3.2668 d.3.0660 12.538 297,20 a 6.1163 2.8131 a10.1925 246.65	2.8936 477.888 12.635 1.1651 2864.66 191.00 6.3377 3.2603 3.0651 12.555 296.60 6.1204 2.8043 10.2761 246.16 13.173 2.3615	12.646 1.646 2854,4 189.44 6.5511 3.2486 3.0644 12.575 295.54 6.137/ 2.7905 10.4305 245.28	5 7,7897 0,7159 1,760,1 1,760,1 1,7598 9,6450 9,6450 7,05319 7,05319 7,5885 4,182,24 4,3,7505 1,7250 9,6250 9,6250 9,6250 9,6250 1,72	293.15 7.7509 1.3991 1757.3 117.17 3.8878 2.0000 1.8803 7.7020 181.95 3.7545 1.7203 6.3038 151.00 8.0808 1.4487	1.9934 1.8806 7.7125 4.0198 1.9934 1.8806 7.7125 6.4005 1.7125 6.4005 1.7426 1.4400	0.7876 1935.27 129,450 4,1809 10.6124 2.2037 2.0686 6 2.0686 4.1267 1.8980 166.8769	Country Australia Belgium Canada Euro France Germany Italy Japan N'lands Spain Sweden 5'land UK US	4,66 2,96 4,87 3,03 3,03 2,96 0,09 3,03 2,90	0.01 -0.01 -0.01 -0.01 -0.01 -0.01 -0.01 -0.01 -0.05 -0.02 0.00	1 yr 4.71 2.93 5.09 3.02 2.96 0.15 3.02 2.90 3.14 1.50 5.33 4,47	-0.01 0.00 -0.01 0.00	3.03 5.04 2.97 2.97 2.97 3.05 0.26 3.02 2.93 3.20 1.56 4.75		5 yr 5.18 ( 3.57 - 5.14 - 3.36 - 3.32 - 3.52 - 3.42 - 3.42 - 3.42 - 3.42 - 3.43 - 4.51 - 4.51 - 5.01 (	0.03 0.01 0.04 0.03 0.03 0.02 0.04 0.03 0.05 0.05	10 y 5.4; 4.1( 5.2; 3.9; 4.0; 3.9; 4.1; 1.80; 4.0; 4.1; 4.3; 4.4;	351231704744
Switzerland US	1.6308	2.3013	212.10	1,0000			03000				MO	NEY M	ARK	ET F	RATES			
		OT	HER SF	OT RAT	ES		-8					1 week Bid Offer	1 10		3 months Bid Offer		onths Offer	1 Bid
Country	Sterik	ng	Dollar	Country	Sterf 0.619	-	Dollar 0.3800	Treasury I				5.41 5.41		5.45	5.04 4.94 5.39 5.39	5.33	5.33 5.31	5.33
Argenzina Brazil Osina Czech Rep Egypt Ohana Nungary	1.622 3.049 13.29 56.10 5.561 3894 377.3	96 91 38 18 .3	0.9950 1.8700 8.1500 34.454 3.4105 2388.0 231.38 42,425	Oman Pakistan Philipines Poland Catar Russia South Korei Tahwan	74.64 61.93 6.364 5.937 38927 a 1976	12 12 13 13 13 10 16	45.770 37.970 3.9025 3.6408 23870.0 1211.70 32.540 37.450	Domestic Eurosterii Eligible & Sterling C Eurodolla Euro Libo	ng Depa ank Bilk Ds r CDs	5.31 5	9 5.50	5.25 5.38 5.44 5.50 3.03 3.03	5.31 5.34 5.24 5.36 4.83 3.04	5.41 5.14 5.28	5,23 5,33 5,25 5,31 5,11 5,01 5,25 5,17 4,89 3,03 3,03	5.19 5.02 5.22 4.94 3.01	5.25 4.92 5.15 3.01	5.16 5.23 3.02
india Indonesia Kuwait	69.18 14625 0.493	.8	8968.5 0.3029	Thailand Turkey	61.07 59245 5,985	9C	363313 3.6725	WWW	ı.blo	omb	erg.	com/u	k		Source	<u>. Bi</u>	001	nb
Manager C.	0,43	2	A2.000	UAE	3,50-													



	117	NDUSTR	IAL M	ETALS			
LME (\$/tonne)	Cash	Chg	3 m	onth	Chg	LMEscole	Chi
Aluminium HG	1206 12	207 36.00	1225	1226	32	815825	145
Atuminium Allov	1082 10	97 24.00	1!01	1 102	18	79060	-172
Copper A		370 -2.00	1396	1396.5	-3.5	696600	-32
Lead		0.5 7. <b>5</b> 0	501.5	502	6	104850	-12
Nickel		50 -40.00	5210	5220	-40	57576	-46
Tin		10.00	5250	5255	-15	9300	18
Zinc	1018 10	)19 -2.00	1091	1032	-3	305850	-25
		RECIO					
pm fbx/S per o	Z Novic Vonric	pm fbv/£ p	per oz		Coins	(5)	Year
	chg chg	Year's	ché	chg			ch
Placinum 367.50	-0.25-31.50	Pladnum 22	25.45 -0.6	0-13.20	Krug ra		
Paltadium 349.00	1.00 83.00	Pattadium 21	4.10 0.2	0 55.00	Sovs	72.44	
	0.00 -0.76	Silver	3.10-0.0	1 -0.37	Nobles	386.05	
Gold 283.70	-1.00 -6.70				Manie i.	eaf 294.65	-4
Cocoa	Coffee	RICULTI Barle ne LIFFE		Potabo	m .	Soya E	
	Coffee	Barle	y	Potabo			
LIFFE E/conne		Barte ne LIFFE	y	Potato		CBOI	5/5k
Mar99 840.00	Coffee LIFFE S/ton Mar991758	Barle ne LIFFE 1.00 Mar99	E/tonne 2 72.50	Potato LIFFE S Apr99	ics /tonne 501.00	CBO1 Apr99	5/5k 476.2
Mar99 840.00 May99 638.00	Coffee LIFFE S/ton Mar991758 May991550	Barke ne LIFFE 1.00 Mar99	E/tonne 72.50 74.00	Potato LIFFE S Apr99 May99	ics /tonne 501.00	CBOI Apr99 May99	5/5k 476.2 482.(
Mar99 840.00 Mar99 638.00 Jul99 855.00	Coffee LIFFE S/ton Mar991758 May991550 Jul99 1552	Barke ne LIFFE 1.00 Mar99	E/tonne 72.50 74.00	Potato LIFFE S Apr99 May99	tonne 501.00	CBOI Apr99 May99	5/5k 476.2 482.0 490.0
Mar99 840.00 May99 638.00	Coffee LIFFE S/ton Mar991758 May991550 Jul99 1552	Barle ne LETE LOO Mar99 LOO May99	E/tonne 72.50 74.00 74.23	Potato LIFFE S Apr99 May99 Jun99	tonne 501.00 335.00	CBO1 Apr99 May99 Jun99	5/5k 476.2 482.( 490.( 107(
Mar99 840.00 May99 638.00 Jul99 855.00 Vol: 491	Coffee LIFFE S/ton Mar991758 May991550 Jul99 1552 Vol: 21	Barle ne LETE 1.00 Mar99 1.00 May99 00 Sep99 27 Vol: Witheau	E/tonne 72.50 74.00 74.23	Potato LIFFE S Apr99 May99 Jun99 Vol:	5/tonne 501.00 335.00 345.00	CBOI Apr99 May99 Jun99 Vol: Lge Po	5/5k 476.2 482.( 490.( 107( Cattos
LIFFE E/conne Marg9 840.00 Marg9 638.00 Jul99 855.00 Vol: 491 White Sugar" LIFFE Stonne	Coffee LIFFE S/Lon Mar991758 Jul99 1552 Vol: 21 Freight LIFFESIONA	Barles ne LIFFE 1.00 Mar99 1.00 May99 1.00 Sop99 1.7 William pt LIFFE	E/tonne 72.50 74.00 74.23	Potato LIFFE S Apr99 May99 Jun99 Vol: Corn*	5/tonne 501.00 335.00 345.00	CBOI Apr99 May99 Jun99 Vol: Lge Po	5/5k 476.2 482.( 490.( 107( Cattoe (25k k
LIFFE E/conne Marg9 840.00 Marg9 638.00 July9 855.00 Vol: 491 White Sugar" LIFFE Stonne Marg99 201.50	Coffee LIFFE S/ton May991758 May991550 Jul99 1552 Vot: 21 Freight LIFFES10kk May99 975.	Barles  LEFFE LOO Mar99  OO Sop99  27 Vol: Wheat p: LIFFE OO Mar99	E/tonne 7 72.50 9 74.00 9 74.23 	Potato LBFFE S Apr99 May99 Jun99 Vol: Corn* CBOT C Mar99	ess /ronne 501.00 335.00 345.00 	CBOI Apr99 May99 Jun99 Vol: Lge Po 4 ATA \$ Mar99	5/5k 476.; 482.( 490.( 107( Cattoo :75k k 32.9
Mar99 840.00 May99 638.00 Jul99 855.00 Vot: 491 White Sugar" LIFFE Stonne May99 201.50 Aug99 195.50	Coffee LIFFE S/con Mar991758 May991550 Jul99 1552 Vot: 21 Freight LIFFES1046x Mar99 975. Apr991005.	Barke LEFFE LOO Marys LOO Mays OO Sops Yor: Wheat pr LIFFE LOO Marss OO Marss	£/tonne 72.50 74.00 74.23  £/tonne 73.00	Potato LIFFE S Apr99 May99 Jun99 Vol: Corn* CBOT C Mar99 May99	ces /ronne 501.00 335.00 345.00  encs/t/sh 219.00 225.50	CBOI Apr99 May99 Jun99 Vol: Lge Po 4 ATA 5 May99 May99	5/5k 476.3 482.( 490.( 107( Cattor (25k k 32.9 34.0
LIFFE E/conne Mar99 840.00 Mar99 638.00 Mar99 638.00 Vol: 491 White Sugar" LIFFE Stonne Mary99 201.50 Aug99 195.50 Oct99 195.50	Coffee LIFFE S/ton Mar991758 Mar991552 Vol: 21 Freight LIFFESIO/Ax Mar99 975. Apr951005. Mary59 980.	Barke ne LIFFE 1.00 Mar99 1.00 May99 00 Sep99 27 Wol: Whest pr LIFFE 00 Mar99 00 Jul99	E/tonne 72.50 74.00 74.23 	Potato LIFFE S Apr99 May99 Jun99 Voi: Corn* CBOT C Mar99 Jul99	ces /ronne 501.00 335.00 345.00 	CBOI Apr99 May99 Jun99 Vol: Lge Po 4 ATA 5 Mar99 May99 Jul99	5/5k 476.2 482.( 490.( 107( catoe (75k k) 32.9 34.0 35.9
Mar99 840.00 May99 638.00 Jul99 855.00 Vot: 491 White Sugar" LIFFE Stonne May99 201.50 Aug99 195.50	Coffee LIFFE S/con Mar991758 May991550 Jul99 1552 Vot: 21 Freight LIFFES1046x Mar99 975. Apr991005.	Barke LEFFE LOO Marys LOO Mays OO Sops Yor: Wheat pr LIFFE LOO Marss OO Marss	£/tonne 72.50 74.00 74.23  £/tonne 73.00	Potato LIFFE S Apr99 May99 Jun99 Vol: Corn* CBOT C Mar99 May99	ces /ronne 501.00 335.00 345.00  encs/t/sh 219.00 225.50	CBOI Apr99 May99 Jun99 Vol: Lge Po 4 ATA 5 May99 May99	5/5k 476.2 482.( 490.( 107( Cattoe (75k k) 32.9
LIFFE E/conne Mar99 840.00 Mar99 638.00 Mar99 638.00 Vol: 491 White Sugar" LIFFE Stonne Mary99 201.50 Aug99 195.50 Oct99 195.50	Coffee LIFFE S/ton May991756 Juli9 1552 Vol: 21 Freight LIFFES10/dx May99 975. Agr991005. May99 980. Vol:	Barke ne LIFFE 1.00 Mar99 1.00 May99 00 Sep99 27 Wol: Whest pr LIFFE 00 Mar99 00 Jul99	E/tonne 72.50 74.00 74.23 	Potato LBFE 9 Apr99 Way99 Vol: Corn* CBOT C Mar99 Jul99 Vol:	es (/tonne 501.00 335.00 345.00	CBOI Apr99 May99 Jun99 Vol: Lge Po 4 ATA 5 Mar99 May99 Jul99	5/5k 476.2 482.( 490.( 107( catoe (75k k) 32.9 34.0 35.9
Mar99 840.00 Mar99 840.00 Mar99 638.00 Mar99 638.00 Vol: 491 White Sugar* LIFFE Stonne Mar99 201.50 Aug99 195.50 Oct99 192.50 Vol: 687	Coffee LIFE S/ton Mar991758 May991550 Jul99 1552 Vol: 25 Freight LIFFE510/dx Mar99 975. Agr991005 May99 980. Vol:	Barrier LOO May99 00 Sop99 27 Wol: Wheat pr LIFFE 00 May99 00 Jul99 8 Wol:	E/tonne 2 72.50 3 74.20 74.23 5 (tonne 2 73.00 1 74.75 76.60 1 38	Potato LBFE 9 Apr99 Way99 Vol: Corn* CBOT C Mar99 Jul99 Vol:	i/tonne 501.00 335.00 345.00 345.00  encs/bst 219.00 225.50 10292	CBOI Apr99 May99 Jun99 Vol: Lge Po 4 ATA 5 Mar99 May99 Jul99 Vol:	5/5k 476.3 482.( 490.( 1070 Cattoe (?5k k 32.9 34.0 35.9
Mar99 840.00 Mar99 840.00 Mar99 638.00 Mar99 638.00 Vol: 491 White Sugar* LIFFE Stonne Mar99 201.50 Aug99 195.50 Oct99 192.50 Vol: 687	Coffee LIFFE S/ton Mar991758 May991552 Jul991552 Vot: 21 Freight LIFFE510/dx Mar99 975. Apr991005 May99 980. Vot:  OIL (CME) S/406 (CME) S/406	Barle, Inc. LIFTE LIFTE LOW May95 LOO May95 Too: Vinceal P. LIFFE LIFTE LIFT LIFTE LIFTE LIFTE LIFT LIFT LIFT LIFT LIFT LIFT LIFT LIFT	E/tonne 2 72.50 3 74.20 74.23 5 (tonne 2 73.00 1 74.75 76.60 1 38	Potato LIFFE S Apr99 May99 Jun99 Loor C Corn* CBOT C Mar99 May99 Jul99 Vol:	ces /ronne 501.00 335.00 345.00 encs/bst 219.00 225.50 231.50 10292	CBO1 Apr99 May99 Jun99 Jun99 Vol: Lge Po 4 ATA \$ Mar99 May99 Jut99 Vol:	5/5k 476,3 482.( 490.( 107( catoe 275k k 32.9 34.0 35.9 11
LIFTE E/conne Mary99 840.00 Mary99 638.00 Jul99 855.00 Vol: 491 White Sugar" LIFFE Stonne Mary99 201.50 Aug99 195.50 Oct99 192.50 Vol: 687	Coffee LIFFE S/ton Mar991758 Mar991552 Jul991552 Vot: 21 Freight LIFFE510/dx Mar99 975. Agr991005 May99 980. Vot:  COME) S/406 (COME) S/406	Barle, Inc. LIFTE LIFTE LOW May95 LOO May95 Too: Vinceal P. LIFFE LIFTE LIFT LIFTE LIFTE LIFTE LIFT LIFT LIFT LIFT LIFT LIFT LIFT LIFT	E/tonne 72.50 74.23 74.23 2 E/tonne 73.05 74.75 76.60 138 POTS A Aug Ro May Ro May Ro	Potatoo LBFE S Apr99 May99 Jun99 Voi: Corn* CBOT C Mar99 May99 Jul99 Voi: At 5 SOUR. Three Marzy Lobber Strom	ens/sst 219.00 345.00 345.00 225.50 225.50 10292	CBOI Apr99 May99 Jun99 Voi: Lge Po 4 ATA 5 Mar99 May99 Jul99 Voi: 5/100 mt	5/5k 476.2 482.0 490.0 1070 Catoe (75k k 32.9 34.0 35.9 11
LIFFE E/conne Mar99 840.00 Mar99 638.00 July9 855.00 Vol: 491 White Sugar* LIFFE Stonne Mary99 201.50 Aug99 195.50 Oct99 192.50 Vol: 687	Coffee LIFFE S/ton Mar991758 Mar991552 Jul991552 Vot: 21 Freight LIFFE510/dx Mar99 975. Agr991005 May99 980. Vot:  COME) S/406 (COME) S/406	Barley  DEFE  DEFE	E/tonne 72.50 74.23 74.23 2 E/tonne 73.05 74.75 76.60 138 POTS A Aug Ro May Ro May Ro	Potato LEFE S Apr99 May99 Am99 Voi: Com* CBOT C Mar99 May99 Jul99 Voi:	erics/cst 219.00 345.00 345.00 345.00 225.50 231.50 10292	CBOI Agr99 May99 Jun99 Vol: Lge Po 4 ATA 5 Mar99 May99 Jul99 Vol: \$7100 mt \$7 5k kg \$750k kb	5/5k 476.2 482.0 490.0 107( Cattoo 275k k 32.9 34.0 35.9 12
Mar99 840.00 Mar99 840.00 Mar99 638.00 Mar999 635.00 Vol: 491 White Sugar* LIFFE Stonne Mary99 201.50 Aurg99 195.50 Oct99 192.50 Vol: 687  Apr Live Cattle Mary Pork Belles Mary Cranget Aice Dec. Mark	Coffee LIFFE S/ton May991756 Jul991550 Jul991552 Vol: 21 Freight LIFFES/IOKK May99 975. Apr991005 May99 980. Vol:  (CME) S/40k (CME) S/40k (CME) S/40k (CME) S/515k	Barley  DEFE  LOFFE  LOFF  LOFF  DO May99  DO Sop99  THER SI  LOFF  LOFF	E/tonne 72.50 74.23 74.23 2 E/tonne 73.05 74.75 76.60 138 POTS A Aug Ro May Ro May Ro	Potato LEFFE S April 99 May 99 May 99 Vol: Corn* CBOT C Mary 99 Jul 99 Vol: 1 5 SOFF	ess //tonne 501.00 335.00 345.00 345.00 225.50 70292 (CTM (KLC)	CBOI Apr99 May99 Jun99 Vot: Lge Po 4 ATA 5 May99 Ju199 Vot: 5/100 mt 1 y/ 5k kg 1 S/50k fb 5/25 fb	5/5k 476.2 482.4 490.6 107( catose 25k k 32.9 34.0 35.9 11
LIFFE E/conne Mar99 840.00 Mar99 638.00 July9 855.00 Vol: 491 White Sugar* LIFFE Stonne Mary99 201.50 Aug99 195.50 Oct99 192.50 Vol: 687	Coffee LIFE S/Lon Mar991758 May991550 Jul991552 Vol: 25 Freight LIFFES10/dx Mar99 975. Apr991005. May99 980. Vol:  (CME) S/404 (CME) S/404 (CME) S/504	Barles  DEFE  DEFE	E/tonne 9 72.50 9 74.00 9 74.23 	Potato LIFFE S April Apr	ess (700me 501.00 335.00 345.00 345.00 225.50 231.50 70292 (700 (CTM) (C	CBOI Agr99 May99 Jun99 Vol: Lge Po 4 ATA 5 Mar99 May99 Jul99 Vol: \$7100 mt \$7 5k kg \$750k kb	5/5k 476.1 482.0 490.0 1070 1070 1070 1070 1070 1070 1070 1

gion if the vehicle e returned at the end of the finance agreement. Whit

### **SPORT**

Five Nations' Championship: Inspirational stand-off is determined to spark France in Twickenham debut tomorrow

### Castaignede to lead French revolt

By Ian Borthwick

"I JUST CAN'T wait to get back on the field. To get to Twickenham, play my gots out, and show people what I am really capable of doing." On a wind-swept training ground on the outskirts of Castres in south-west France last week, Thomas Castaignède was practising goal kicking before training with his club team. Three days had passed since the shock defeat against Wales in Paris hut, by the rings under his eyes and his thousand-yard stare, you could tell that French rugby's golden hoy was still struggling to come to terms with the loss

The man who so often in his career had snatched victory for France in the dying seconds was this time on the receiving end of what the French call la glorieuse incertitude du sport. His last-minute penalty attempt against Wales, 20 metres from the line and 10 in from the right-hand touch, sailed across the front of the posts, allowing Wales to celebrate their first win in Paris for 24 years. "I haven't slept since Saturday," said Castaignède, repeatedly - almost obsessively kicking goals from exactly the same spot. "I keep going through the match over and over in my head. and I still can't believe we lost. We all feel frustrated and annoyed with ourselves because we know that game was there for the taking."

Perhans, for someone who until now appears to have led a charmed existence, a little suffering can do

All his life Castaignède seems to have gone from success to success. At 24, apart from his 24 international caps for France, he has already won the French national club championship four times with Stade Toulousain, won the European Cup with the same club, and, whether at stand-off or centre, become one of the undoubted foundation stones of the French team.

With his first cap on French soil he beat the All Blacks in a historic upset victory in Toulouse in November 1995. Scarcely two months later, and only hours away from his 21st hirthday, Castaignède won his first Five Nations cap, polishing it off with that dropped goal from 30 for media attention on both sides of metres to beat England in the the channel. In many ways he repdying seconds at the Parc des

Last year against England at the Stade de France, Castaignède's defence, notably on the charging Lawrence Dallaglio, was one of the outstanding features of the French performance. But it is on attack that the bottle-blond flyer provides the impetus and the spark for France, his hlistering acceleration and unerring eye for the gap, honed from years of playing centre, making him the kind of stand-off capable of breaking the gain-line and of immediately putting his team on the front foot.

While his natural ebullience and intuitive flair make Castaignède what Jo Maso calls "the embodiment of French style", his impish



mention passably fluent English) also make him the automatic target for media attention on both sides of and the environment. resents the kind of fully-rounded inbecome, even in rugby, a rarity in international sport.

"It's true that I have been fortunate," he concedes. "I must have been born under a lucky star or something. I have always lived in a virtual world. There have been times when I have even asked myself if it was real, when everything was going so well that I was convinced there was a hitch somewhere. I remember saying to myself: La vie, c'est pas ça! C'est pas possible!"

As brilliant on the field as he is in the classroom, Castaignède holds the equivalent of a Doctorate in Engineering from the highly respected Institut National des Sciences Appliquées (National Institute of

cialising in industrial processes

list of achievements, behind the whose club has produced names like dividual which has unfortunately nonchalant carefree exterior, lies a Benoit Dauga, Christian Darrouy, or natural skill. But I was fust deterdetermined young man who has al- the archetypal French centres Guy mined to succeed, and once I get an ways worked hard, both at his game and André Boniface - he hated and his studies. "I was always a real being left behind by the older boys. to change my mind." swot at school," he recalls. "I would never go to a history class without in the back yard, and by the age of erns his approach to the game.

At eight years old, growing up in However, behind this impressive Mont de Marsan - a small town having revised the previous lesson. nine could not only pass equally well "No matter what he is doing,

TOMORROW

Tve learned so much from him over the last couple of seasons:

how to deal with the most pressurised situations, how to keep a

cool head when others are letting it all slip, how to compete against

the most competitive people around'

England's Jonny Wilkinson (left) tells Chris Hewett

about the debt he owes to Rob Andrew

a hard worker, I have always iminsists. "In the beginning I had no

penalties from 40 metres. "I am just manding of himself," says his teammate, Christian Califano. "He is posed that discipline on myself," he always questioning, always doubting, never satisfied. That is his

Strangely, for one who has already beaten England twice in his career (in 1996 and 1998) Castaignède, like the majority of the players in this French side, has never played at Twickenham. "I have heard so much about this ground, but it is not something that intimidates me. I just can't wait to

play there." Despite the sohering loss to Wales, or more accurately because of it, the challenge of England seems to have hardened his resolve. "This year's Five Nations is much harder, much closer fought than in the past," he said, "but England still remains our No 1 opponent. Of course we are going there as underdogs, but there is a feeling of "like me."

revolt in the camp, and we will not be giving in easily."

For Castaignède, the most impressive thing about England is the forward pack, especially the back row and the second row. And of course Jonny Wilkinson, who has already made a big impression on the Tricolores. "He is very young, but there are not many weaknesses in his game. He is very skilled with the ball in hand and courageous on defence. We are going to have to watch him very closely, and not give him a centimetre of space in which to move."

Another player Castaignède will be watching closely is his counterpart, Mike Catt, known to the French back-line as "Michel Chot". "I like the way he plays. In terms of his approach to the game I much prefer Chat to Paul Grayson. Forme he is less rigorous than Grayson, but he is more imaginative," concludes Castaignède. "I suppose he is more

### Sharkey scrums down in a tough proving ground

ACCORDING TO remarks attributed to a senior figure within the BBC last week, women do not much care for rugby league. That will come as news to the high female proportion of the crowd at grounds like Leeds and Wigan - and even more so to the increasing numbers of women in positions of power and influence within the game.

When Wigan play at Headingley tonight, for instance, the longestserving member of their team, on or off the field, will not be some craggyfeatured prop or an aged retainer who has scrabbled away beneath the stand, man and boy, in some capacity since Billy Boston was a lad. It will be Mary Sharkey, who

arrived at Central Park as the office funior in 1981 and who was confirmed last week as the club's first woman director.

"I was straight out of school and looking for a full-time job, when a friend of mine who was working for Maurice Lindsay in his own husiness told me that there might be something going at Wigan," she recalls. She arrived for the interview and Lindsay admits to having completely forgetting about her, leaving her in a corridor for an hour and 40

"I was immediately impressed by her stickability and she got the job,"

Rising from tea-maker to director, Wigan's wonder woman has made it in the man's world of rugby league. By Dave Hadfield

club's vice-chairman. It was not quite the dream appointment that it would be for many of the young girls who will be on the terraces tonight. because the then Mary Charnock was not exactly a devoted Wigan fan. "I didn't go to the games, although if you live in Wigan you follow the

Her initial contribution to the club's well-being consisted of the usual range of junior secretarial duties, "including making the tea". It was in 1984, when Wigan went back to Wembley for the first time in 14 years, that the pace of the job changed.

"Even though we lost, it was from that point that things got husier and the club started to grow. But I'd rather be busy." That was just as well, because the club in those days could be a frantic place to work. "Her great quality was her unflappability," says Lindsay. "That and a good sense of humour."

Some of the pranks played on Lindsay in those days are the stuff of Wigan legend and run counter to the way she has managed the role whom she frequently compare: the subsequent image of him as an of "an attractive female next door to notes.

the time he was dispatched to the bank manager to ask for another loan, with something very embarrassing slipped surreptitiously into the top of his briefcase, not to mention the unsolved case of the lipsticksmeared underpants that arrived for him in the post.

in many ways, those heady days when the club was just beginning to take off remain her favourite times at Central Park. "There was a really good atmosphere around the club, with players like Danny Campbell here and Graeme West and Howie Tamati coming in. They were a good set of players."

Of all the players who have come and gone since, Mary can find little bad to say. "You have to know who you can laugh and joke with and who you can't, but I've never really had a bad word with any of them." And this, remember, is at a club that once housed the competitive egos of Ellery Hanley, Andy Gregory and

Shaun Edwards. Lindsay is full of admiration for

impossible taskmaster. There was a dressing-room full of hot-blooded young men. She has very cleverly

That distance is magnified by her seniority in the administration of the club. In succession, she has become club secretary, football manager and, as ratified by last week's AGM, director. There have been strong women behind the scenes at Centrai Park in the past, but none who have achieved what she has.

"I'm so proud of her," says Lindsay, whose track record of encouraging female talent within the game is good, from Emma Rosewarne at the Rugby League to Sally Bolton at Super League. "They just need to be given an opportunity." he says.

Mary has other role models to which she can refer. Kath Hetherington, the co-founder of the Sheffield Eagles and now the Gateshead Thunder and one of the most redoubtable people in the game, helped her through her first meeting of the Rugby League Council, while Denise Cackett, the Castle ford secretary, is a close friend with



Mary Sharkey at her second home, Central Park, where she is now a director Simon Wikinson

"We ring each other if we need to the women's game, while Super more women involved in rugby league than people seem to realise,"

The game would like there to be more women. The League now supports a development officer for

discuss anything but there are a lot League's advertising for the new season is unashamedly aimed at the female market, with beefcake on posters and a cinema campaign screened alongside the movie You've Got Mail.

Not inappropriate, perhaps, for

someone who started her working life at Central Park opening the post. Tonight she will be in the directors' box, as unflappable as she was when the final demands came in. I don't get nervous at matches," she says. "I leave that to the coaches and

1.174

**Oatley** 

gives

BY BILL COLWILL

Navy Royal Air Force

RAF a

late lift

LAST-MINUTE goals sank the

Navy in both their senior

games yesterday in the Inter

Services Championship at

Aldershot, the men going down

3-2 to the RAF and the womco

by the same score to the Army.

in which both sides squandered

a number of chances, the RAF

always looked the more dan-

gerous, although the best

chance fell to the Navy's looc

front-runner, Guy Dale-Smith.

It was the RAF however who

opened the scoring when Andy

Beresford found himself un-

marked at the far post to tap in

The RAF midfield pairing of

Finlay McLean and the captain

David Oatley were slowly be-ginning to dominate the game,

with Graeme Cartmell and Neil

Powell looking dangerous up froot. It required desperate

defending from the Navy in

which the goalkeeper Richard

Potter was called upon to make

a string of fine saves, together

with some timely interceptions

from James Dean to prevent

the airmen from going further

With the RAF wasting two

penalty corners either side of

the interval, it was very much

against the run of play that

Dale-Smith broke through the

RAF ranks and, shrugging off

the attentions of three defend-

ers, he slipped the ball under

the goalkeeper Sunil Ravai for

the equaliser seven minutes

Within seconds of the re-

sumption the airmen were

again in the lead when Beres-

ford burst through to score his

second. With the Navy becom-

ing more adventurous, with

Brett Morgan joining in the at-

tack, their reward came in the

53rd minute with the awarding

of a penalty corner. Mark

McLintock's powertul drag shot

went in off the underside of the

rary suspension of Danny

Makaruk for an uncompromis-

ing tackle on McLean, the

Navy's defeoce were again

struggling, cooceding three

late penalty corners. The first

was wasted as their compli-

cated corner drill failed and the

second saw Chris Kimber's

shot going just wide. The third

appeared wasted as another

complicated move appeared to

break down, only for Oatley to

finally bundle the ball under a

prone Potter for a last-minute

Handicapped by the tempo-

crossbar

into the second half.

a cross from Steve Welham.

In a scrappy opening session

### ham debut tomorrow

potent Frateri

with the same

العمولا بالأمساء بهدي يتربينونيو

B. AFRICA T. Frederick Co. Co., Co. Co. Co.

revolt are 'scary'

THE APPARENTLY beleaguered French have announced yet another personnel change for tomorrow's Five Nations rumble with England at Twickenham, replacing one Stade Français wing Thomas Lombard, with another, Christophe Dominici. In a sense, though, Lombard's leg injury does not matter a brass centime; as Jeremy Guscott, a self-confessed Francophile, was quick to agree yesterday, the blue-shirted visitors could field Brigitte Bardot and the Roux brothers in their three-quarter line and still run in heavenly tries from every last corner of the pitch. "To my way of thinking, the French are the best counterattackers in the world," said Guscott during a 20-minute celebratico of Tricolore ingenuity. They run angles and do things in narrow channels that oo other international team can even hope to emulate and, without being born and bred

there, it is impossible to fully un-derstand them. When you watch video footage of their moves, everything seems quite natural; however, when you're actually facing them on the pitch, it is often difficult to see where they're coming from. Sometimes, they pass blind and assume a colleague will arrive to continue the move. Believe. me, that takes incredible confidence. Hove playing against the French because I find them . be forgiven the odd flight of scary. It's always a seat-of-thepants job because of their unpredictability and willingness to run the ball from anywhere. We've been working extremely hard on our defence over the last few months but, if your op- ing him nightmares.

Guscott says

the French

BY CHRIS HEWETT

ponents run great angles, great lines and have great timing there is nothing you can do to

Praise indeed: it was almost as if England's revered triple Lion wished he had been born in Biarritz and christened by Serge Blanco. But when you have pocketed very nearly 60 caps, played in a World Cup final and established yourself as one of the most recognisable rugby players on the planet, you can



Dallaglio yesterday: 'A game against France is

fancy. Guscott has always gloried in the unique pressures of an Anglo-French conflict; indeed, the Tricolores remain his dream opponents precisely because they are capable of giv-

### Giovanelli reprieve incurs Scots' anger

onerate the Italian captain, Mas-No 8 Eric Peters in the recent

friendly between the two sides. Giovanelli was handed an eight-week ban by a Five Nations disciplinary committee Five Nations clash with Scotimmediately after the game. However, an appeals tribunal has ruled that because the game was not a Five Nations contest, even though the game was run under Five Nations regulations, the ban should not apply. Giovanelli is now free to play with immediate effect. An SRU statement last night described the decision as unacceptable and leaves open the possibility of pursuing the matter through the courts.

"We do not accept 'procedural matters' should override the fact that the referee and touch judge considered Mr Giovanelli should be dismissed from the field for an act of foul play," said the SRU chief executive, Bill Watson. "We will not rest until this appalling act is justly penalised for the good of

SRU officials are discussing the matter with the International Rugby Board and the Italian Rugby Federation. Previously the IRB has been warned by the police that in

THE SCOTTISH Rugby Union order to exclude the possibility has criticised the decision to exing action against violent play, simo Giovanelli, who was sent they must ensure that punisher fashion.

The Ireland captain, Paddy Johns, has given his country a pre-match boost ahead of the land at Murrayfield by announcing he is quitting the English game. Johns, who wins his 50th cap tomorrow, will leave Saracens after three years with the London chub. and join the European Cup winners Ulster, where he played for six seasons before moving to England. He becomes the latest - and biggest - name to cross the Irish Sea, following the likes of Eric Miller, Jonathan Bell and David Humphreys, who will all appear alongside Johns in the big Ed-

inburgh confrontation. "There are several reasons behind my decision, there is no one factor," said Johns. "I have had a very enjoyable three years with Saracens but this is a new challenge for me."

Now Johns is setting his sights on a Murrayfield success to give Ireland a 50 per-cent winning record in the Five Nations."This is our last game and, although we would love to finish with a flourish, we want to win," he said.

"Back in the early years of the decade, when Brian Moore was at his best as England's winder-up-in-chief, we seemed to get to the French on a mental level," he continued: "The more desperate they became to. get the English monkey off their backs, the more heat they put themselves under. That was

why they were so relieved when they finally beat us in the last. World Cup; it was incredibly important to them, even though the match itself was a pretty poor advert. Now they seem to be themselves again and I'm thankful for that I think they bring something special to the

On the face of it, Guscott's enlogy sounded suspiciously like an attempt to talk up the French, just as Pierre Villepreux, the visitors' coach, talked up the English on Wednesday Yet, although the bookmakers have Clive Woodward's Grand Slam-chasing Twickenhamites as odds-on favourites, there is a strong feeling in the home camp that a wounded Tricolore is a whole lot more dangerous than an over-confident one. Indeed, England suspect the French took Wales far too lightly in Paris 13 days ago and that their defeat on that occasion was a freak circumstance of their own

"Forget the events of two weeks ago," said Lawrence Dallaglio, the England captain. "Let's just remember that for all the newcomers in the threequarter line and the back row, the main body of players who brought France back-to-back Grand Slams are still there: Ibanez, Tournaire, the two Carbonneau, Castaignède. Speaking as a loose

forward, I think the new unit of Castel, Lievremont and Juillet looks very physical, very tal-ented I think this will definitely be one of the most interesting areas tomorrow. "A game against France is al-

they have it in them to be the best side in the world. My only regret is that we meet them only once a season and have had to wait more than 12 months for another shot at them following our defeat in Paris last year. We should play them more often in my view; the Australians are now a power in the world game precisely because they took advantage of their proximity to New Zealand. The English Channel is not as wide as the Tasman, so why not increase the number of fixtures?"

Far from diluting the

French reserves of experience. Lombard's late withdrawal has had the opposite effect; Dominici at least played against Guscott and company last season - indeed, he scored a try-and hence becomes the only member of a reconstructed threequarter line to have mixed it with the English foe. "I don't think the unfamiliarity of this French side has much to do with anything," said Dallaglio, guardedly. "They have a conveyor belt over there and it produces ballhandling forwards and running backs by the dozen." We



### Stead and Harris help Kiwis to stage recovery

GARY STEAD and Chris Harris staged a considerable rescue operation at the Basin Reserve toss in the third Test and seemed poised to capitulate even more ignominiously than they had done in the secood in

Christchurch. The score was 58 for 4 when Harris joined Stead, who had played his first Test for New Zealand at the age of 27 last week at Lancaster Park. He is a stockily-built left-hander and, although the South Africans complained at his luck, he is not

the worst of players. He tucked the ball away assiduously off his legs and forced the ball handsomely through the off-side. He played some lovely square cuts and produced the best stroke of the day in the over he reached fifty when he on-

drove Hansie Cronje for four. It took Harris longer to settle and in 20 overs before tea he made only 15. Afterwards, he was transformed and fours flowed off his bat as he forced Shaun Pollock through extra cover, pulled and square-drove Steve Elworthy, forced Cronje to extra-cover and smashed a short one from Jacques Kallis past cover. It was stirring stuff and it will have done New Zealand's morale, which was

BY HENRY BLOFELD

New Zealand 211-6 v South Africa

lunch, no end of good. The hundred stand came up in 138 min-utes and then the third of three fours in an over off Cronje, a square-cut, took Stead to 50 in 107 balls with eight fours.

Harris's 50 came four overs later when he pulled a long-hop from Paul Adams to the boundary. This was his seventh four and he had faced 119 balls. Ten runs and six overs later, Pollock took the second new ball and

batsman, has been given a clean bill of health ahead of

England's World Cup campaign

who has been suffering from a

debilitating back injury which

saw him leave the Ashes Tour

to Australia, has been cleared

by Wayne Morton, the Eng-land physiotherapist, in ad-

vance of next month's Sharjah

"Obviously I am a bit ap-

one-day tournament.

The 29-year-old left-hander.

scuppered in the closing overs Twose, who had looked hopewhen it removed first Stead Daniel Vettori. New Zealand had been awful

in the first part of the day even

though Allan Donald's stomach muscle strain had prevented him from turning out for South Africa. In the ninth over, Matt Horne forgot his footwork when coming forward to Pollock and was caught at slip. At 32, Brian Young drove, also without footwork and at third slip Jonty

Rhodes made an awkward catch look easy. The score was 50 for 2 at lunch and afterwards Nathan Astle was yorked by Elworthy.

Thorpe declared fit for Sharjah

and the last week has been in-

tense." Thorne said "I have had

something like 15 nets and my

back's really been put through

its paces. We are off to Sharjah

in 12 days time and I am real-

Surrey are keen to re-sign

Saglain Mushtaq, the Pakistan

off-spinner, as their overseas

player for 1999. "Saglain had a

great season for us last year and

we would like him to come

back," said Adam Hollioake, the

SKI HOTLINE

Detailed independent snow and weather reports from 180 resorts

ly looking forward to it."

GRAHAM THORPE, the Surrey months have been pretty tough

lessly out of his depth for 79 is, tailed to take his bat out of the way and was caught behind off Elworthy.

First day, New Zealand won toss NEW ZEALAND - First lanings 

he would miss the start of the

season but our only concern is

depart before the end of the sea-

Lancashire suffered an em-

barrassing collapse in their

opening tour match in South

Africa yesterday, leaving them

on the brink of defeat against

Western Province Academy.

They slumped to 110 for 8 in

their second innings, just 45

ahead going into the final day.

SNOW REPORTS in association with WorldCover Direct

son on international duty."

whether or not he would have to

The RAF today play the defending champions, the Army, who on Wednesday beat the

Navy 4-0, for the title. In the women's game the Navy, with goals from Charlotte Atkinson and Vicky Burrows, led the Army against the run of play until two goals from Claire Ryding in the closing minutes gave them an unexpected victory. Earlier, Toni Robinson had scored the opening goal for

the Army. Royal Many: R Potter: A Curmingham; M McLintock, J Dean, 5 Wooter: S Mitchell, P Reidy, H Acidand; C Hardy, G Dale-Smith (capt), B Morgan. Substitute used: P Friendship. Royal Air Porces S Raval; C Kimber: A Granger. P Jacobs, B Slack: O Oadley (capt), F McLean, A Beresford; 5 Welham, G Cartmell, N Powell. Usessives: N Smith and A Notman.

### Depleted Leeds still a threat to Wigan

TIME HAS run out too quickly for two of Leeds' big guns and one of their most effective wildcards as they prepare to resume their struggle for

supremacy against Wigan. Their coach, Graham Murray has named a team without Richie Blackmore, Adrian Morley and Marcus St Hilaire for tonight's match at Headingley, although all three are oow close to fitness.

The loss of Morley, in particular, would have been crippling

#### RUGBY LEAGUE

BY DAVE HADFIELD

heve he is out until they see him in the stand but Andy Hay - so often a substitute last season has proved a capable member of the starting line-up lately.

Hay scored a hat-trick against Widnes in the Challenge Cup last Sunday and will have the same players around him with Murray selecting the same 17 – but predicting a bigger role for 18-year-old Kevin Sinfield.

the park a lot earlier than last k," said Murray. "He played changed the whole complexion but I think that's a good thing."

of the game." Only a month after Leeds' victory in the Challenge Cup, beating them in the play-offs and this match means enough for the Grand Final. "But I don't

paper, it's all about Leeds for it such hard work last time." the double. It's starting to grate

"He might find himself on seem to have gone from champions to also-rans. It's building up a really strong ri-25 minutes at Widnes and valry between the two clubs -

Wigan lost twice to Leeds in Super League last year, before Wigan coach, John Monie, to want to leave it until the semiabandon his usual detachment. finals before we beat Leeds this "Every time you pick up a time," Monie said. "That made

For tonight's showdown, which could attract a Super with us and I'm sure it's grat-ing with Bradford," he said. "We League record crowd now that matches like these.

to its 23,000 capacity, Monie is still without Denis Betts, Tony Smith and probably Simon Haughton as well. Against that, he has a squad of players - particularly the newcomers, Mark Reber, Greg Florimo and Brett Goldspink - who know each other's play far better than they did when they were last there.

Unlike Leeds, they do not have a Challenge Cup semifinal hanging over them - and that can still he a factor in

### (the fax lists codes for 180 re-

Livigno...

AUSTRIA

First, obtain the access code for Phone or Fax 0870 51 00 843 To listen to the latest snow and Weather report: Phone 0901 47 70 051 + code

For a fax copy of the latest snow and weather report: Tox 0906 55 00 086 + tode

SKI HOTLINE SNAPSHOT

A detailed four-page summary of conditions in 180 resorts Fax **0906** 55 00 601

Helpline: 0870 51 33 345

UNITED STATES Calls to 0901 cost 60p per mm, 0906 cost £1 per min. 0870 calls are standard national rate.

charge for electricists of the finance dependence of the finance dependence. Written quotation if the vehicle is returned at the end of the finance dependence. Written quotation f(x)

On or off piste, with WorldCover you're covered.

WORLDCOVER!

-2C Mild/colder 2C Changeable

### NFL votes for radical instant replay challenge system

A SEASON littered with mistakes by officials has resulted in the National Football League voting to bring back instant video replays for the 1999 sea-

NFL owners voted 28-3 in favour of installing a radical instant replay challenge system. A total of 24 votes from the 31

FOOTBALL

owners were needed for approval. The only teams to vote against replays - which were used as an aid to officials from 1986 to 1991 - were the Arizona Cardinals, Cincinnati Bengals.

it's a good thing we want to time-out. keep it in. But the owners have

"Part of the deal was to use making final decisions from time period. However, the refit for just one year," said Mike sideline monitors. Any chal- eree on the field will determine Holmgren, the co-chairman of lenge not supported by the ref- if a play will be reversed after the competition committee. "If eree will cost the team a reviewing the replay

committed to this just for 1999." assistant in the press box to review any controversial plays in Under the new guidelines coaches will be given two chal- the final two minutes of both call," said Rick McKay, the lenges per game, with referees halves and throughout an over- Tampa Bay general manager.

port at extra cost.

"The difference this time is There will also be a replay no more will the (replay) guy in the booth make the decision, the ref on the field makes the

subject value) £12,623.00. APR 8.4%. Further charges may be made \$3.75. Total charge for credit £2,435.25 (includes a finance facility fee of £70, payable with the first process of the finance agreement. Written countainers

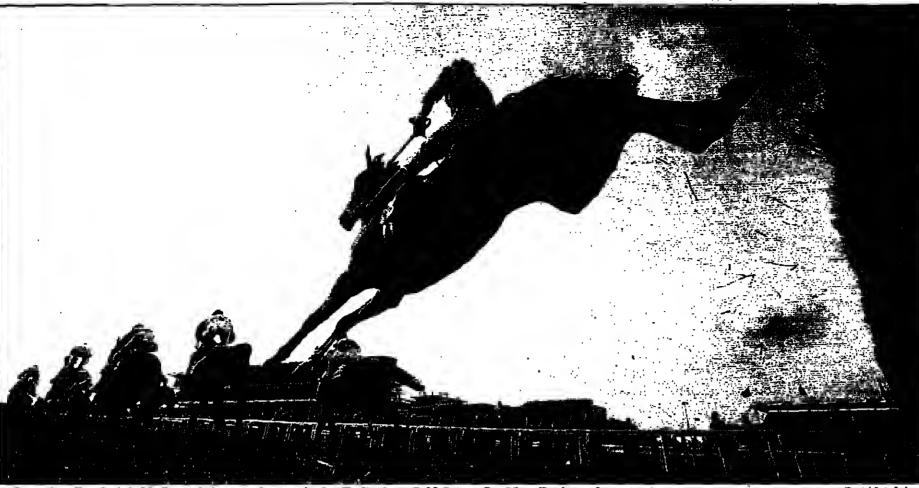
### Cheltenham Festival: A grey who looked destined for highest honours is carried from the track in a horse ambulance 'He didn't Mill limps into troubled future

**Andrew Longmore** on a jockey whose Festival has been marred by serious injury to horses on the brink of fame

NO ONE need tell Venetia Williams about the school of hard knocks. Yesterday, she graduated with honours. Her Teeton Mill, five minutes before carrying the throbbing hopes of England, transported back from the racecourse not with the delight even the most pragmatic of trainers must have imagined but in the back of the same horse ambulance which had whisked away the future of poor Nick Dundee 24 hours before. Peering out of a tiny side window of the ambulance on the way to the equine hospital, Teeton Mill'a lad has just one question. "Who's won?" Such is the relentless rolling rhythm of

News of See More Business's success did not lift his heart, but, in time, the shifting fortunes of Paul Micholis, the winning trainer, might help to ease Williams' suffering. A year ago, the burly west countryman was incandescent with rage after the Martin-Pipe trained Cyborgo had carried out See More Business and ensured another winnerless Cheltenham. This time, he was dancing a jig with his farrier in the centre of the paddock - an unlikely tango it was too - and celebrating his third winner of the meeting.

So much had gone perfectly for Williams' stable this season, she must have been expecting the punch line. But not one quite this stunning. Teeton Mill, the grey and his jet black-haired young trainer, with



Tail-end Charlie: Unsinkable Boxer brings up the rear in the Cheltenham Gold Cup as See More Business & co. scoot away

race had been billed, with more shut the double doors, barring the owners and press from an intensely private ritual.

Only the red and white parade cloth, with the number 12 and the name Teeton Mill in big bold letters hung out over the door In the stable next door, Nicholls bustled around the sturdy frame of See More Busi-

The race itself was an eery rerun of an old video. Coming down the hill, just past the spot where the hopes of See More Business had been buried in

warned Richard Dunwoody that he was about to pull out. Dunwoody pulled Florida Pearl back a fraction and Teeton Mill veered sharply to the right and out of the race. Watching on the big screen near the paddock, Venetia Williams' heart must have sunk almost as low as the thousands of English supporters who had dug deep to send their champion off as narrow second favourite.

Worst fears were confirmed when Williamson jumped straight out of the saddle and,

led his horse towards the racecourse ambulance. The problem was later diagnosed as tendon damage. Philip Arkwright, the clerk of the course, said that Teeton Mill had slipped the tendon off his offhind hock. The horse was strapped up before being despatched to Williams' vet, Liam Kearns. "They'll probably be able to operate on the leg and get it right, but it's a repetitive injury," Arkwright added.

After riding a double on the opening day, shepherding Nick racing oblivion in the last two days, Williamson must feel like the emotional equivalent of the heavyweight's punch bag. Even by the Festival's turbulent standards, the Irishman'a buffeting this week has been intense. With luck, Nick Dundee and

Teeton Mill will survive to enjoy worthy and untroubled retirements. Perhaps they will defy medical law and race again. But their pretensions to greatness remain tantalisingly unfulfilled. The same, I suspect, will not be said of Miss V in a year or two.

was a 66-1 shot'

"It's a great day and we're re-ally chuffed. He's in absolutely everything - the National, Irish National, you name it." David Nicholson, trainer of Go Bal-

"I'm delighted for the borse more than anything. He deserved this and he didn't know he was a 66-1 shot." Sheila Lockhart, owner of Go Ballistic. "Richard said that the horse might not have been as supple over one or two fences as he has been in the past and that used up a lot of his energy. He's a young horse and, as we've set out to come here for the next couple of years, hopefully he'll be good enough. Today was tremendous experience for him. It's the first time he's really come under pressure in a race." Willie Mullins, trainer of Florida Pearl

"He broke a blood vessel." Tony McCoy, rider of Unsinkable

"It was a great run and on that he must be a serious Grand National prospect." Adrian Maguire, rider of Addington Boy. "If he could breathe property he'd win a Gold Cup. I had a lot of horse under me until he made a mistake at the top of the hill. After that he couldn't breathe but he gave everything. He's so brave. He was given oxygen afterwards." Lorcan Wyer, rider of Simply Dashing.

"He was wrong in himself and hopefully something will show up." Richard Johnson, rider of Escartefigue.

"His jumping was just not great." Poul Corberry, rider of Dorans Pride. "He just wasn't good enough on the day." Carl Llewellyn, rider of Senor El Betrutti.

"He jumped as if the track was too sharp for him." Graham Bradley, rider of Suny Bay.

### Fitzgerald's skill speaks volumes

AT 3.50 YESTERDAY afternoon, marked himself out, a little like there were more cameras. microphones and reporters the Flat, as the man to have on crowded around Mick Fitzger- your side in the big races. ald than even he could handle. Well, almost. "I'm sorry, but was so disappointed by the I've got to go and get ready for progress of his career that he the next race," he said, as one was about to try his luck in New last radio crew tried their luck. Zealand instead. It would have rather well just now. Fitzgerald walked three paces been a serious loss to the puntowards the weighing room - ters who collected this week of jump racing's three great of Peter Scudamore and John and then stopped to do another after copybook rides in the prizes, with only the Champion Francome did not complete

Not for nothing is he one of the racing media's favourite jockeys. Fitzgerald not only talks, he talks unusually well, almost as well, in fact, as he rides racehorses. Until this week, he had ridden just two Festival winners, and the most recent of

Walter Swinburn once did on Yet just a few years ago, be

before them, each acting as

chief publicist to the other's bril-

liance. At last, a new face to

brighten the ranks, a natural

successor to the role of

women's champion so conve-

niently and carfully vacated by

Jenny Pitman on rue C. ening

morning of the Festival, For

Mrs Pread Miss V. Not just yet.

Racing does not relinquish its

ring. Teeton Mill had looked a

picture, one of three greys in

the race, the lightest of the

In Cheitenham's pre-parade

spoils so readily.

Queen Mother Champion Chase, Triumph Hurdle and

Gold Cup.

The rider of See More Business delivers words and winners with equal rapidity. By Greg Wood

required. And anyway, his pre-ferred style seems be working thankfully little sign of his

than a touch of hyperbole, as po-

tentially the most thrilling duel

of English and Irish since the

days of Arkle and Mill House.

But those two were seasoned

protagonists; this was a race

into the unknown for both Tee-

ton Mill, an upwardly mobile

point-to-pointer, and Florida

Pearl, Latest pride of Ireland.

story of the race, was unwit-

tingly captured right there in

the backstage fussing. Williams

had guided her charge into

The picture of the day, the

Fitzgerald has now won two Hurdle left to add to the Gold Cup and the Grand National, which he won on Rough Quest All three were presented to in 1996. It was in the aftermath win their races with split-sec- of that victory that he proond precision. Fitzgerald was duced what will probably reonce given the tongue-in-check main his most famous sound nickname of "the bank rob- bite, when he said that "sex is ber", because he seemed to an anticlimax after that". It

speaking any less.

Even jockeys of the quality the Big Three, and Fitzgerald's wait could be a long one. Then again, it could be just 12 months, given the immense authority of Katarino's success in the Triumph Hurdle yester-

The record of Triumph winners in the Champion is not enthose was in 1995. In the space hold everything up, but while he was a spur-of-the-moment re-couraging, hut Katarino of three days, though, he has may not ride from the front as mark, and one which he now ad-thanks in part to his jockey-did added four more, three of them often at Tony McCoy, he has the mits he regrets. These days, he not seem to have the gruelling in championship events, and breadth of ability to do so when tries to think a little harder he-experience of Cheltenham

which so often seems to leave day was the Stayers' Hurdle, its mark on winners of the race. Fitzgerald was pushing as they came down the bill, but by the time he reached the final flight. Katarino was travelling beautifully, and he quickened clear to win hy nine lengths. Coral were so impressed that Richard Johnson as he recordthey offered just 10-1 for next year's Champion Hurdle, although Ladbrokes were more realistic with a quote of 20-1. The latter make Istabraq 7-4 to

7-1 and Barton on 10-1. Fitzgerald dominated the final day of the Festival, ending it with a treble and the London Clubs Trophy for the meeting's leading jockey to put in the back of the car. The only worthwhile

take his third hurdling crown

next year, with those other Fes-

tival winners Hors La Loi III on

which fell to the withering late run of Anzum, a 40-1 shot, Le Coudray, another of Ireland's strong team, seemed to have the race won at the bottom of the hill, but even Charlie Swan's sternest efforts could not repel ed his first ever Festival winner.

The afternoon, though, belonged to the talkative jockey from Cork, whose most telling comment came as he finally broke free of the media scrum to change his silks. "I feel greedy," he said, "but I still want

LONDON CLUBS TROPHY FOR THE LEADING JOCKEY AT THE CHEL-TENHAM FESTIVAL: FINAL PLACINGS: A wine M A Fizgerekt; 2 wins A P McCoy, N.Willemson; 1 win C F Swan, Mr B Gibson, L.Wyer, J Tizzard, F M Barry, P Carbony, Mr A Martin, 8 Powell, R Johnson, Mr & Pollock,

### Suny assistance for **Ballistic backers**

GO BALLISTIC'S chances of BY IAN DAVIES winning the Grand National have been enhanced by news Champion Chase on Wednesthat Suny Bay, pulled up in the Gold Cup yesterday, will still go to Aintree. Simon Sherwood, his owner, to enjoy his retirement trainer, said yesterday: "Suny in the company of Large Action Bay is perfectly all right, he sim- and Arctic Call," his trainer, ply couldn't go the pace. All

being well, be will go to Aintree." Suny Bay has 11st 13lb in the National If he runs the weights will be held down and Go Ballistic - now 10-1 favourite for the National with Ladbrokes after his startling performance yesterday – will he able to run off 10st 13lb. This means he will have to concede just 5lb to Double Thriller, who finished 31 lengths behind him in fourth A total of £8,169,769 representplace in the Gold Cup. Ask Tom, who came back

sore after finishing last of 11 fin-

ishers in the Queen Mother

owner, to enjoy his retirement Tom Tate, said, Ask Tom, won eight of his 19 races, notably the Tingle Creek Chase at Sandown in 1997. A Tote Jackpot carry over of

day, has been retired. "He'll go

to Brian Stewart Brown, his

£295,473 goes to Fakenham today after only one 10p winner scooped a share of yesterday's fund, landing £23,309. The Tote also announced a record oncourse turnover for the three days at Cheltenham this year. ed an increased of 11 per cent. GRAND NATIONAL (Arritret, to April) Lact-brokes: 10-1 Go Ballistic, 12-1 Double Thriller, 14-1 Addington Boy, General Wolle, 16-1 Eudipe, Nahthen Led, 20-1 others

#### **FAKENHAM**

HYPERION 2.20 Connel's Croft 3.50 Antiguan Flyer 2.50 Storming Lady (nb) 4.20 Mr Dick 4.50 TANGSHAN (nap) 3.20 Yankie Lord

■ Left-hand, bight course, Run-in of 200yd
■ Course is S of bown off B146, ADMISSION: Mombers £12; Grandstund & Paddock
S6, Under-185 free, CAR PARK, Members £7 (28 for evening meetings), rest free.
■ LEADING TRAINERS: Mrs. O Heline 8-29 (27,8%), O Brennein 8-33 (24,2%), G Pro-■ LEADING TRAINERS: MOT HINTE B-25 (2,27%), U BITINGHI 0-30 (2,62%), G F10-dromou 6-9 (3,15%), J Jenkins 6-39 (5,6%), R Dunwoody 5-15 (33.3%), Michael Brennan 5-21 (23.5%), A P McCoy 5-31 (63.7%), B P Dunwoody 5-15 (33.3%), Michael Brennan 5-21 (23.5%), A P McCoy 5-31 (63.7%), B F44VOLRITES: 81 was from 270 races (success rate 38.6%).

SUNKERED FIRST TIME: None.

2.20 FAKENHAM CAR CENTRE SELLING HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS G) \$2,500 added 2m Penaity Value \$1,815 

- a operator -BETTING: 11-4 Locy Tutty, 3-1 Consel's Croil, 4-1 The Great Rood, 9-2 Court John; 6-1 Blotoft, 12-1 Aprings Blands, 16-1 Afdes, 3-1 Blot Lock 1998 Springfield Phyme 7-t) 3 Mr S Curoch (5) 4-1 tay (5 Golings) 11 ran FORM GUIDE

The Great Flood: Lightly raced since landing Catherick claimer in 1996, but showed the retains some ability when close that to Xapons off this mark in non-sellar over C&O (soff) in Oct. Goes well tresh and looks one to consider if market is positive. Among Islandic: Ludiow seller winner last season for Richard Lee, but has been tailed off both starts for new hencher the term and proteibily best watched at nonsent Court Joker: Running well off this mark, although found into off the bit when 7 lengths ain to Westoni General at Newcostile (2m sell hosp, sort). Should be thereabouts Blotoffit: Chance on 8 lengths 4th to Hever Gott Diamond at Marinet Reset (2m if cell hosp, sort) in Oct from 2th hospire but deseponding since (once in chese) and is returning from 17-week lay-off.

Lucy Tutty: Sest race for a long while when beaten 1/1 lengths by River Frontier in seller over C&D last month from 4th lower. Disappointing on heavy ground since but problems and nother extends.

actly moter analysis calunds Aldert Did not show much over hurdles or lenous in early season and has been look-Agean: Lea not renow mucan ower numbers or renous in early season and has been took-ing loss than enthuspass or incrent outings on the all-wealthor "Commet's Graft: Much improved in visor and up at best when 10 tengths 4th to Tifled in under seizer at Newcassia (and house, soft). Goes well on high trach and shorter trop should suck Magure booking a pole.

Bon Lucic No sign of the property of tar

VERDICT: Good co. If m is always a bonus on this light circuit, and LUCY TUFTY appears to have an allowing her good effort behind fliver Frontier here last month. Her subsequent disappointing Vibriviate light was possibly due to the testing ground. Conner's a Credit looks the abvoise danger on his Catterior, but has yer to win in 20 starts. The Great Flood could be the pick of the remainder.

2.50 EDP CHAMPION FOR NEWS NOVICE CHASE (CLASS D) £5,250 added 3m 110yds Penalty Value £3,456

SCUL HARDING 149 TO Finds S Medical 9 11 9 C. Welch
SCOP IN THE WAN (52) (Az 5 Thorson Jones) Mr D Hone 7 11 2 G. Durack
SCP 05 JORGERS CHARM (21) IN 8 Meson 1 N Major 6 11 2 G. R. Guest
14152 WARDER (28) (0) (D) (A Softmour O Shorson) 7 17 2 J.A. McCardby
FFO4-P LANG WHANG (59) Mrs N Sombly Mrs A J Bombly 8 11 2 G. Clearly
FFO4-P MENIAMA PRINCE (24) (0) (D) Protects; B Presco 10 11 2 J. Mogland (7)
12/C2F TAKE COVER (23) (A. & U Bernat) M Somplets 6 11 2 J. Magnine
U11.3 STORMING LADY (34) (D) (EP) (M Roberts) M Poberts 9 11 1 Mr R Fornstall (3)

- 8 declared -

BETTING: 2-1 Knock Lander, 7-2 Take Cover, 4-1 Nievana Prince, 9-2 Storming Lady, 5-1 Harding, 25-1 Johans Chann, 33-1 in The Vax, 66-1 Ling Whang 1998. Broadwater Boy to 11 5 P Gennty 10-11 lay (M Hammond) 5 ran

FORM GUIDE

Herding: Good 3rd behind Ripanus at Poliestone (\$10, soft) after scoring over 2m on same course, but jumped moderately before unsensing inder at Newbury last time. Difficult task under his peretty.

In The Van: Poor notice over hundles and little promise in two chase outings. Broke blood vestoel latest start.

body waste lazar start. Jokens Chemn: Some promise over hurdles, but tailed off on chasing debut behind Sad Mad Bad at Market Rasen (2m4f nov, soft) Sad Mad Bad at Market Pasen (2m4f nov, soft)
Knock Leeder: Useful bumper and hurdles performer for Martin Pipe lest torm. Given
plenty to do when beaten 15 lengths by House Captain on chase debut over C&O lest
month, jumping adequately. Should improve and looks the one to beat.
Lang Whengs Occasional sign of ability over hurdles (4th of 15 to Androm at Towces-Lang tyrneng: Queens or one; or comment to the better over fences

Nitvansi Prince: Linucky loser over C&D 13 months ago and big chance on 20 lengths

Nitvansi Prince: Linucky loser over C&D 13 months ago and big chance on 20 lengths

Particular Princip Control of the Co miling Lady: Smart hunter and point-to-pointer two seasons ago. Promising come k when 21 lengths 3rd to Salmon Breeza at Folkestone (2m51 nov, acht) in Dec

VERDICT: NACCK LEADER a skely to get a more aggressive ride here than on his debut and will not have to improve a great deal to open his account. Storming Lady, who was returning from a long lay-off when 3rd at Folkestone, has experience on her side and should progress, while Nirvana Prince and Take Cover are also skely to have

3.20 GRAHAM BUILDING SUPPLIES HANDICAP CHASE (D) 26,500 added 2m 5f 110yds Penalty Value £4,282 

Alminum weight: 10st. Title hendicap weight: Epsito De La Romoe set 1to. BETTING; 6-4 Yankin Lord, 4-1 Nowm, 5-1 Denger Flyno, 7-1 Pro Boso, 5-1 Whippers Delight, 14-1 Steler Rosta, 25-1 Epsito de la Ronce, 33-1 Just Brece

FORM GUIDE

Yamitile Lord: Good effort when failing by 9 lengths to concade 10to to Smarty at Huntregion (Am hosp, good), ideally suited by this shorter trip and looks major player Danger Flyner Consistent sort. Lucky winner over 3m here in January (Salmon Bres: clear when fell tust) and looks weighted up to his best. Would be suited by tarther Pro Bono: Three-time course winner. Ludoy to beet Linkethen in hunter chose over less month. Beaten off 4th lower on less hundicap outing and looks up against it Nosems Possibly unbody when to lengths 2nd to Piver Linehon at Sedgefield on Tues-day and returning to form that earned him 3 early-season wine. Strong finisher who looks farly treated, only 3to higher than latest success

eince and quickly laded when 4th of 9 to Montassman (Jun, good to soft) here latest Sister Rosse: Tumbling down weights after senes of below-par efforts (15th below les winning mark). Orificult to fancy on latest distant 5th to Prime Evample at Market Rasen Just Bruce: Lecaster wenter off 17to higher a year ago, but right out of sorts and ye to finish in three cutings this learn Epsilio De La Rionce: Winner 5 times over tences in French provinces. Poor form in novice

hurdes and difficult to predict on return to cheang. VERDICT: YANKE LORD was facing a major task in attempting to concede velocity to the progressive Smarty at Hummigdon and lost no casts in deleat. His test here looks easier and the shorter trip is in his twour. Negam is the dividual danger after he Sedgefield return to form on Tuesday. He appears to go particularly well for Richard prize that escaped him yester- JR Barry, 7 J Murphy. 3.50 TOTE HURDLE (HANDICAP) (CLASS D) £8,000 added 2m Penalty Value £5,280 SOCIOCO 2011 Petriarry Various 5.3,200 D Gallingher 13-27 PROVINCE (6) (0) (2) E Bown) C Murris 8 12 (7ex) D Gallingher 13-22 PROVINCE (6) (0) (2) E Bown) C Murris 8 12 (7ex) D Mallingher PA-60 BLURRIED (67) (Mar P I Kahora) M Karpidina 8 11 50 D Mallioner (7) 14213 XAPPETE (63) (CD) (6F) (M Meson) N Meson 7 11 7 R Genet 414-5 EFHARISTO (est) (0) (Mar P A Wilhe) J Cultimar 10 11 7 Mar A Recent 414-5 EFHARISTO (est) (0) (Mar P A Wilhe) J Cultimar 10 11 7 Mar A Recent 414-5 EFHARISTO (est) (0) (GP Producting 42 Productions 10 11 5 Michael Britanes (05) ANTIGUAN PLYER (28) (CD) (G Producting 42 Productions 10 11 5 Michael Britanes (05) ANTIGUAN PLYER (28) (CD) (G Producting 42 Productions 5 10 11 L Cooper (7) 41298 PHARILY REEF (28) (CD) (5 P Trickel) G Charles-Lorse 5 10 11 L Cooper (7) 41298 PHARILY REEF (28) (CD) (7 Gal) O Burchell 7 10 8 D J Burchell

BETTIMO: 8-5 Misconduct, 11-2 Province, Xalpats, 12-9 Get The Point, 16-1 Antiquam Flyet, 12-1 Etherlato, 16-1 Physiy Reef, 18-1 Bitured, Cadibury Castle 1998. Antiquen Flyer 8 10-0 Michael Brennen (8) 11-2 (6 Prodromou) 8 nin

FORM GUIDE

Get The Point: Dual winner at Towcester and game there lest time when holding off Warm Spell. Weaker race hare with a penalty but preten right-hand course Provincer. Fowcester form against lawner or since boosted and won Sandown ametern' race (heat Studio Thirty) test Seturday. Chances even with 7to penalty Elistract: Melden over hardles and tried in tongue strap test time (7th to Belladur here). Hard to fantcy with title known claimer abound success, coessful on the course in October (best Hover Gott Diemond). Has won three chance along and not the course in October (best Hover Gott Diemond). Has won three chance along around to suit Efferiates: Lifes a sharp course and oppod witners). Will like the ground to suit Efferiates. Lifes a sharp course and consistency. Here they ground and won this race lest year (heat Classic Eagle 6 lengths). Windoor winner in December and contested stronger race on unsultable ground lest time (9th of 7 to Memsahlo Ofsetern).

Milleonidust: Improving mane who defied a amel penalty with seas at Catierick (seased down to best Medge McSplesth) after the impressive success at Follestons. 19th higher mark here so satificat test to date.

Cadibury Castler Has won only selers and taced very stiff task at Wincanton lest time who is the 1st Naucy. Lifes good ground.

Planty Reeft Just one wn (seler) from 14 starts and hand to fancy (8th of 16 to Piver Provisirs in seler here tast time).

VERDICT: The lest time Get The Point ran on a left-hand track he hung to the right.

VERDICT: The last time Get The Point ran on a left-hand track he hung to the right. His subsequent win at Rowcester were a game effort but hele back on a left-hand course today. Northern trained Xelpete hee travelled down here for a win before, lifeconstuct to on a right her wire here been on acif ground and she has to dely a 18th rise. The value is to be test with ANTIGUAN FLYZER, winner of this 12 months ago and greetly a stell by the depice conditions.

4.20 WILLIAM BULWER-LONG NOVICE HUNTER CHASE (H) £3,000 added 2m 5f 110yds Penalty Value £2,023 INP-2 IRR DICK (1987) (IRR Marri) Mar T HE 10 TH 9

1283-3 RIMERS (EID (RF) (IR Marri) Mar T HE 10 TH 9

1283-5 ROSCOLUTE (2017) (AT 1 Read) Mar J Read 7 TH 9

4725- SCHESMONE (2007) (IR PROLLOCK (IR THE STANDARD TO THE ST

—14 decienal —

—14 decienal —

BETTING: 8-4 Mr Dick, 3-1 Life Of Brien, 6-1 Angle Fresh, 8-1 Rivers End, 18-1 A Right Sat Two, Starlight Fool, Writers Cuttings, 12-1 Barrastons, 20-1 others. Starlight Fool, Winters Cottage, 12-1 Barradown, 20-1 others. 1998: Stoney Valley 8 tt 2 Mr M Gingelf (7) 4-1 (8 Dowling) 12 ran

FORM GUIDE

A Right Set Two: 20-length 2nd to Drawn Packet at Highern and well besten when a faller at Follestone (race won by Torncappagh). Highern where last April (good) Barmedown: Wirning portain but modest form this season (ran out when besten at Highern last time). Stable to be respected hern Bunchall Darra: Dual winning pointer and clien of Chester Ben when a 30-length 2nd to Mr Mothquor at Gerthorpe in May. Besten distance when 4th to Mester Yoby at Dunthors less than Chester Ben: Modest sort without a recent run. Held by Buschell Dana, and also fin-ished over 20 lengths behind A Flight Set Two at Highem in April

Jungle Freat: Ughtly raced and 2 length winner from Sir Boston at Cottanham (2m4), good) on reappearance. Prominent for long way but eventually pulled up behind Commissivis at Chaining (2m, pood) a fortright later.
Life Of Britar: Promise in mades opens this season, 1-length 2nd to Verity Velentine and then kept on strongly to beet Bugsy Moran at Highsom (good). Obvious chance

and partnered by last year's winning jockey

Mr Disic Winner of 7 point-to-points and ran well for long way in Aintree race won by
Marthals Boy in April. Sure to improve on seasonial 6-length 2nd to Forest Foundain
Hillwera End: Three-times points winner last term and creditable 2nd to Glasmock Lad
at Folkestone (2mSi) at bedeend. Will be better for 28-length 3nd to Royal Surprise at

Barbury Castle
Reacohite: Modest placed form last season and taded from three out on reappearance when faced with stiff tests behind Bramblehill Buck at Marks Tay
Sheatmore: Plate over hurdles with Micky Hammond (2nd to Frontier Flight) and pulled
up in only point. First start to over a year
Startight Foot: Reappeared to first or over a year
Startight Foot: Reappeared to first or over a year or short-last
Townsys Wieldo: Reverted to hurdles on first start last season after hunter-chase ath
join 37 lengths) to Silevenamon Met at Doncester. Leyoff to defy
Winters Cottage: Reaf-ground performer and firsthed test term (unraced since) with
3-length win from Tytherington at Chaddesley Corbett
Worshy Meanories: Seemington in title account
VERDICET: MR DCCK wints his after of reces between the sticks and has his chance

VERDICT: MR DICK wire his share of races between the sticks and has his chance to shine over regulation fences. He will be all the fitter for his recent second and is like-by to appreciate this shorter trip. A his danger is fire younger-Jurgile Presh, who has won over this sort of trip at Cottenham. Life Of Shian must also be in with a real shoul.

4.50 EDP CHAMPION FOR SPORT CONDITIONALS' MAID-EN HURDLE (E) £3,000 added 2m Penalty Value £2,214 

- 11 declared BETTING: 8-4 Hurricame Jame, 5-2 Tangahan, 11-2 Janobrin Dangor, 8-1 Sabre Butt, 12-1 Our Fuglay, Able Laix, 14-1 Bouted Flat, Vehrat Jones, 16-1 others
1990: Assanbitie 4 11 D Michael Brannen 2-5 lay (N Calogham) 14 ran FORM GUIDE

Busined Plat: Might approciate this better ground but an ex-bumper horse who is unfacely to have the pace to figure
Doctor Hicket: Saymour Hicke newcomer-gelding best watched
Our Fuglishy: New-Zealand-brad gelding and 86-1 on debut at Fortwell when 9th of
15 to warm texturine Smirth. Pulled hard and may do better on this laster surface
Peter Perfect: 0th in seller at Southwell last month and turned out 19 days later to still
Sh of 15 to Overmon in seller at Documents.

15 to warm textourile Smint. Pulset hard and may do bester or use sester surface Peter Perfect. 9th in seller at Southwell fast month and turned out 19 days later to still 5th of 15 to Oversman in seller at Doncaster. Velvat Jones: Beaten in poor races. (8th of 12 to Cadbury Castle in Heretord seller) but fair altowing on Part since when 6th of 71 to Gantue at Lingslad (tm). Able Less: Classic Music mere melding her debut. 5th of 11 to Katil over 1m at Lingslad in November 1907 and needed run in December (first for 7 months). hurricame Jame: Hampered and fair in Raise Hays races at Retripton and line 3nd next time to Cashaplonaly in Warwick from Stiff teak last time (9th to Berlin Blue at Hunt-ingdon (2m4)). Probably better over today's trip. Acts on fast ground Joset A Madeen: Ex-bumper (and to Suffick Get at Southwell) and winning pointer. Acts on fast ground but first start for over two years. Tangethan: Michael Stoute trained on Flat. Set strong page at Catteriok last month (9th to My Desperato) and then beld up and stayed on late when 6th to Misconduct in Cat-terick from Fire chance in this weak race and stable to be respected Jamorin Demoer, Trained by Michael Jamston to mended albut and not surprisingly laded from three out in good race won by Scarlet Properties Lower grade today. VICHOLOCS: A very week race with Hampleane Jame hasing a leading chance on her

from three out in good race won by Scarlet intripamen, Lower groce votes? VERIDICT: A very weak race with Harricane Jene having a leading chance on her third to Cashaptenty in soft ground at Warwick. She has since tailed over a kinger trip and, being a daughter of Strong Cale, can be expected to three on the faster ground. TANGERAM has fun from the front before and could set up a scassible text on this sharp course. Also, the more helds from DI Halmes yard which has to be greatly respected on this course. An interesting outsider is James's Dencer now that he takes a huge

કેલ કર્મન કેલ કાંગ્રહ

المنا والقارمية المسأ

responding Follows

الردوية الإستهواء والأهاية

State of the State St.

Control of the Section of

(r: -. · · · · · · · · ·

ما د دولاده د پير يو .

 $|a_i| = c - 2 \epsilon_{i+1} - 2 \epsilon_{i+1}$ 

المداسية وتاميخ

----

4.15

---

and the second second Control of the second

MATERIAL PROPERTY.

Westerners :

\*\* " ..... \*

Salar Carlos de la

44<u>-</u>4 0 1 1

14 1 To 14 1

----

Same and the second

-

4----

and — No. 1. No. may of a site of a site of

Service of the servic

**他攻克 苯** 

(a<u>n</u>) = 4.

Name of the last

assistance for

stic backers

THE PARTY PROPERTY.

### Mandela throws hat in the ring

A fortune and 22-carat gold belt are on offer if Lewis-Holyfield II goes to South Africa. By Richard Williams

The Holyfield-Lewis re-match were not already complicated

United States, where the Madison Square Garden organisation would like to promote the enough, the world's most famous politician yesterday stepped into the ring. Nelson Mandela, a former boxer himself, offered to stage the fight to decide the undisputed heavy-weight championship of the world in Johannesburg, possibly in front of a crowd of more than 100,000 people.

Representatives of the South African president have met Panos Eliades, Lennox Lewis's backer, in London to offer an alternative to the existing scenarios for the re-run of last Saturday's controversial draw at Madison Square Garden. According to Eliades, they of fered "twice what anyone else would bid".

Possible venues for the fight in South Africa are the FNB Stadium in Soweto, the National Stadium, and Ellis Park, the venue of the 1995 Rugby World Cup final. The winner would receive the Mandela Belt, made out of 22-carat gold and allegedly worth £3m.

The organisation set up to bid for the event is called The 80th Punch, in recognition of Mandela's age at his retirement in June. Moto Mabanga, the body's principal organiser. pointed out that Mandela had boxed in his youth, and remained a fan of the sport.

"He has repeated several times that the only thing he'll regret when he retires is that he never had a chance to become a champion, thanks to the apartheid laws," Mabanga said yesterday at a press conference given by Lewis at a hotel near Heathrow Airport. "So we've decided as a nation to create a belt, the Mandela Belt, to honour him. We hope to have the fight in August or September."

416 7 2 4

The question of money was brushed gently aside. "We are doing all we can as a nation to make sure that our president does not retire with any regrets," Mabanga said. "There is a lot of money flying about, and to get the fight to South Africa we really need to get the bid in as soon as possible."

According to Eliades, other bids can be expected from the  $\,$  a 50-50 basis.

fight at Yankee Stadium; from the new Millennium Stadium in Cardiff, after its inauguration in the 1999 Rugby World Cup; and from England, where the sports minister. Tony Banks, would like to see it take place at Wernbley Stadium.

But any venue outside the US, including South Africa, is in-evitably disadvantaged by the need to fit the event into American television's prime-time scheduling window. "To like to fight in London," Lewis emphasised yesterday but, to suit evening viewers on both coasts of the US, the bout would have to take place in the early hours of the British morning.

All three organising bodies, the World Boxing Association. the World Boxing Council and the International Boxing Federation, have agreed to waive mandatory title defences in order to ensure a unification rematch in six months' time. Lewis's manager, Frank Maioney, said that they hoped to conclude negotiations for the fight within the next 10 days, although Eliades acknowledged the difficulty of negotiating with Don King, Evander Holyfield's manager, who promoted the

Both Maloney and Eliades expressed scepticism at the idea of King promoting the rematch, wherever it may take place. They pointed out that he had been unable to sign letters of credit in advance of last Saturday's event, guaranteeing \$20m (£12.5m) for Holyfield and just under \$10m for Lewis, He had been bailed out by Home Box Office, the pay-per-view distributor, which had secured the boxers' purses while permitting King to go on and take around \$14m in promoter's profits from

But Eliades felt that even that windfall might not put King in a position to guarantee the purses at the re-match, for which Holyfield is asking \$25m, while Lewis is demanding parsaid, "we'll go to purse bids on



An apparently unblemished Lennox Lewis - the 'uncrowned, undisputed champion' - at yesterday's London press conference

Lewis, introduced to the "People say, why didn't you media by Maloney as "the unfinish him off in the fifth round? But to me he wasn't as hurt as

crowned undisputed heavyweight champion of the world", was asked whether he considered the adjudication of last Saturday's fight, at which each of the three judges produced a different verdict, to have been incompetent or corrupt, "I think it was incompetent," he replied.

"Looking at the fight, I fail to see where Evander Holyfield hit me with a jab," Lewis added, "I was scoring with the jab all night, and when I threw my right hand he was eating that up as well,"

Lewis felt satisfied with his performance. "A lot of things can be made out of what you should have done or could have done," he said. "I never do that. Now, looking at it, yes, if ity with whatever his opponent receives. "If we can't agree," he pen like that, I'd definitely have realised my only hope was a

I thought. I've always said that. as a fighter, Evander Holyfield shows true grit. He's got a great big heart. He's a person who can take punches and

"I didn't feel I could go in and throw combinations without him coming back. He was definitely playing possum. This time I felt that I did it technically right. What more can I do hut next time knock him out?

"But I feel that a lot of questions about me were answered. There are still some questions, and I'll answer them as well. Evander Holyfield is holding my belts for me. They're actually my belts, but he's holding them. If Evander's a man, he should admit that he got beaten and hand me my belts. But he's not that kind of character."

In New York after the fight, that the New York attorney ertheless declared that he did bring my own judges.

Lewis had expressed doubt that Holyfield would want to face him again. Yesterday he

had slightly modified his view. "We're all driven by different things," Lewis said. "Evander Holyfield says he wants to be a billionaire. So, looking at good fights out there, I'm the only fight that he needs, that the public is once again demand-

Williams, the New Jersey official whose scorecard gave Holyfield the fight, Lewis was asked if he thought women should judge boxing matches. "I think women can judge boxing," he said. "Good ones. I think they should go through criteria like any other judge, and be tested. Evidently this oue is new to the game and she's gone through a whole heap of problems." ..

Lewis welcomed the news

general had announced his intention to impanel a jury to look at the way the fight was judged. He and Eliades were due to give evidence to the inquiry over the phone yesterday afternoon. "Everything should be looked into," Lewis said. "There's obviously some kind of conspira-

cy going on. In this fight I would say the public got hurt as well, not just me. They came to In a reference to Jean see the crowning of a champion and they really didn't get that, I'd say Don King should apologise to them. And so should the jodges."

\_L Aupell

Eliades mentioned the postfight allegation that Ms Williams, appointed by the IBF bad been declared bankrupt six weeks before being named to judge the fight. Maloney pointed out that her name had not been on the original list of five IBF nominees, and had only been put forward later. He nev-

not believe the rumours that illegal payments had been made. "I certainly wouldn't question the integrity of Larry O'Connell or Stanley Christodoulou, because I know both men and I've worked with them previously," Maloney said. "I don't know ahout the lady judge. But I think she'd be

time in prison. Nevertheless, Maloney felt that the affair might produce a benefit. "It's opened the eyes," he said, "and it may clean up boxing's act, in terms of the relationship between promoters

very stupid if she had, because

she'd be facing quite a long

and sanctioning bodies." And what would Lewis do differently next time, assuming that - following inquiries and subpoenas and a transatlantic battle of financial wits with Don King-there is a next time? The boxer said: "I'd definitely

### Judges' probe as fight row deepens

BY ANDREW MARSHALL in Washington

THE LEWIS-HOLYFIELD unification title fight moved from the ring to the courtroom and debating chamber yesterday, as the bout turned into a heavy-

weight legal row.
The fight judges said that Lennox Lewis and Evander Holyfield fought to a draw last weekend, but the verdict raised an uproar. It emerged yesterday that a criminal investigation is under way, which could end in prosecutions.

The Manhattan District Attorney has convened a grand jury in New York to investigate speculation that irregular payments may have been made to judges in the fight, and to examine how the judges were chosen. Judge Stanley Christodoulou of South Africa had Lewis ahead; Eugenia Williams of the US gave Holyfield the fight and Larry O'Connell of Britain called it a draw. The DA became involved at the request of the New York City council speaker

The World Boxing Council strongly objected to the choice of Williams, and put forward a British judge in place of its original choice, a Belgian.

Several other inquiries are also under way, Roy Goodman, a state senator from New York, was at the fight and, like most of those present, he was shocked. He convened the Committee on Investigations in Albany, the state capital, to hear witnesses yesterday.

Don King was expected to attend, along with Bobby Lee. the president of the International Boxing Federation, and Williams. The other two judges were to testify by phone. Goodman has taken a long-term interest in the health of boxing in New York, and shut the sport down 20 years ago after conceros bout safety.

The New York State Athletwhile the grand jury is sitting

2.00 Little Miss Lucy 2.30 Royal Raven 3.00 Edwar-

da 3.30 Buckland Lad 4.00 Monks Soham 4.30 Denver Bay 5.00 Gunnerbe Posh GOING: Chase course - Good; Hurdles course - Good to Soft.

FOLKESTONE

GOING: Chase course - Good; Nurdes course - Good to Sort.

If Right-hand, undulating course.

If Course is 6m W of town off A20. Westenhanger station adjoins course.

ADMISSION: Cub & Tattersals 510; Picnic Park 54 per car plus 54 per occupant, Linder-6s free. CAR PARK: Free.

If LEADINO TRAINERS: J Gifford 13-71 (88.3%), O Grissell 11-70 (15.7%), N Henderson 10-29 (34.5%), M Pige 7-32 (21.9%),

If LEADINO JOCKEYS: N Williamson 15-61 (24.5%), M A Fitzgerald 11-60 (83.5%), A P McCoy 9-57 (55.5%), P Hide 9-65 (13.5%),

If FAVOURITES: 10-273 (40.3%), Blinkered 1st time: Silvery Insured, 2001.

LONG DISTAINCE TRAVELLER: Punters Ber (4.50) sent 516 miles.

2.00 HOSPICE ON THE HILL MARES CLAIMING HURDLE (F) 12,250 2m 1f 110yds

### Committee | Co

- 12 declared -SETTING: 6-4 Mass Codes, 4-1 Little Mass Lucy, 9-2 Inclination, 11-2 Mass Scoot-er, 10-1 Silvan, 16-1 Takethetopolit, 20-1 Montagnette, 25-1 others FORM VERDICT Miss Onder showed a marked lack of enthusiasm when last seen at Labbeler in December. However, this rock could hardly be weeker and she is certarily hard so oppose at the vesights. Those looking for an alternative right consider LETTLE MISS LLICY, who ran much better on her second has over hundre and came on again.

2.30 HOSPICE ON THE HILL NOVICE CHASE (D) £5,250 added 3m 2f -6 declared -BETTING: 19-10 Montroe, 7-4 Woodlands Buss, 7-1 Royal Raven, 10-1 Up The Country, 18-1 Com Exchange, 25-1 Edge Ahead

MONTROE stands out here, notwithstanding his yeard still being quiet and the fact that he is untried beyond 2m8f. He tooked in need of further when a staying-on second over 2m5f here but sine and even as it stands that form makes him were must be self-of-face. 3.00 HOSPICE ON THE HILL NOVICE HURDLE (E) £2,900 added 2m 1f 110yds

2 PALATIAL (USA) (22) (9F) Mrs D Hene 4 103 ..... BETTING: 7-4 Pietro Bemba, 9-4 Paistful, 11-4 Edwards, 10-1 Lightning Star, 12-1 Polish Legion, 25-1 Ross Tours, 33-1 others

FORM VERDICT The three to concentrate on are EDWARDA, Pletro Berobo and Pala-tiel. The first-ramed was quite impressive at Warwick and is worth an-other chance after her Chellenhum failure in the autumn.

3.30 HOSPICE ON THE HILL HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS D) 25,250 added 2m - 22H BLCKLAND LAD (14) (CD) D Gissel 8 H 1 N Williamson
P04F GPSY GEOF (22) (D) G Habbert 8 H 1 N R Thornton
S668S COOLTEN HERO (15) (D) R Aires 9 H 8 N R Widger E)
- 26H FEFFERS (29) (D) Mrs F 9 y 8 H 9 Williamson
SFPZFP DEPICHER (FI) (16) Mrs L Teylor D 10 N R Ledger
SFPZFP DEPICHER (FI) (16) Mrs L Teylor D 10 N R Ledger
SFPZFP DEPICHER (FI) (16) Mrs L Teylor B 10 0 Mirs N Ledger
- 8 therianset -R Thornton R Widger (5) W Marston

Minimum weight: 10st. True handlog weight: Upward Surge Std 50. BETTING: 11-8 Buckland Lad, 9-4 Ferrers, 9-2 Coolteen Hero, 11-2 Gipsy Geof, 20-1 Danichaus, 66-1 Upward Surge

FORM VERDICT BUCKLAND LAD has a bit going for him and has very solid cleans. Pro-gressive and the pick of the weights on his last time out war, he has wor over C&D and though today's ground is raiser time of was for that bleet wit, this surface ought not be a problem. The only slight negative is a poor run on his penultimate start but generally he is pretty consistent.

4.00 HOSPICE ON THE HILL HANDICAP HURDLE (F) \$2,250 2m 6f 110yds -1794 DOUBLE STRIKE (13) Ms P Sy 0 11 11
-13985 MLLMOUNT (25) (CD) T McGowrn 8 11 8
-40244 FOUNTAIN BID (4) R Deen 7 11 2
-179035 MCNCS SOHAM (25) G HUDBERT II 9
-182064 ANSI SOHT M. (FR) (13) (CD) G McCourt 8 11 8
-18240 SALAMAN (FR) (32) (CD) 0 O'Bren 7 10 12
-480-00 TUKAMO (CAN) (F11) J. Jankins 8 10 10 J Goldstein (4)

R Thernton
D Ports (5) B

8 00:34 SMOKEY ROBOT (ad) Mas S Edwards 8 10.5 ---9 633310 SORBIERE (52) (CD) D Galssell 12 10.5 --- ---10 OPERS NORDIC SPREE (94) K Vincent 7 10.0 ---

FORM VERDICT Not a race which offers many well-handloapped animals but SALAMAN goes well here and has a good chence on his old form, always assuming the gound continues to dry out. Most of the others have proved their limitations repeatedly, with the exception of Smokey Robot.

4.30 HOSPICE ON THE HILL HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS F) £3,000 3m 2f

| (CLASS F) £3,000 3m 2f
| 6EDP3 CHURCH LAW (63) (D) Ms.1 Eylor 12 ti 10 |
| 9ES62 PUNTERS BAR (69) P Bosen 2 ti 9 |
| 04-25 PORTUNES COURSE (13) (D) J King 10 ti 8 |
| PHTPD DENYER BAY (22) (C) J GBlord 12 ti 10 |
| 2443 SECRET BID (34) (CD) R Anno 8 to 12 |
| 4224 BLAZING STORM (28) C Egenon 7 to 3 |
| 35F30 BLACK SPRING (52) R Rose 7 to 0 |
| 324JE RIGHT SOR (62) (C) 0 Duggan 14 to 0 |
| 324JE RIGHT SOR (62) J LINGON 11 to 0 |
| 324JE RIGHT SOR (62) J LINGON 11 to 0 |
| 344JE RIGHT SOR (62) J LINGON 11 to 0 |
| 344JE RIGHT SOR (62) J LINGON 11 to 0 |
| 344JE RIGHT SOR (62) J LINGON 11 to 0 |
| 344JE RIGHT SOR (62) J LINGON 11 to 0 |
| 344JE RIGHT SOR (62) J LINGON 11 to 0 |
| 344JE RIGHT SOR (62) J LINGON 11 to 0 |
| 344JE RIGHT SOR (62) J LINGON 11 to 0 |
| 344JE RIGHT SOR (62) J LINGON 11 to 0 |
| 344JE RIGHT SOR (62) J LINGON 11 to 0 |
| 344JE RIGHT SOR (62) J LINGON 11 to 0 |
| 344JE RIGHT SOR (62) J LINGON 11 to 0 |
| 344JE RIGHT SOR (62) J LINGON 11 to 0 |
| 344JE RIGHT SOR (62) J LINGON 11 to 0 |
| 344JE RIGHT SOR (62) J LINGON 11 to 0 |
| 344JE RIGHT SOR (62) J LINGON 11 to 0 |
| 344JE RIGHT SOR (62) J LINGON 11 to 0 |
| 344JE RIGHT SOR (62) J LINGON 11 to 0 |
| 344JE RIGHT SOR (62) J LINGON 11 to 0 |
| 344JE RIGHT SOR (62) J LINGON 11 to 0 |
| 344JE RIGHT SOR (62) J LINGON 11 to 0 |
| 344JE RIGHT SOR (62) J LINGON 11 to 0 |
| 344JE RIGHT SOR (62) J LINGON 11 to 0 |
| 344JE RIGHT SOR (62) J LINGON 11 to 0 |
| 344JE RIGHT SOR (62) J LINGON 11 to 0 |
| 344JE RIGHT SOR (62) J LINGON 11 to 0 |
| 344JE RIGHT SOR (62) J LINGON 11 to 0 |
| 344JE RIGHT SOR (62) J LINGON 11 to 0 |
| 344JE RIGHT SOR (62) J LINGON 11 to 0 |
| 344JE RIGHT SOR (62) J LINGON 11 to 0 |
| 344JE RIGHT SOR (62) J LINGON 11 to 0 |
| 344JE RIGHT SOR (62) J LINGON 11 to 0 |
| 344JE RIGHT SOR (62) J LINGON 11 to 0 |
| 344JE RIGHT SOR (62) J LINGON 11 to 0 |
| 344JE RIGHT SOR (62) J LINGON 11 to 0 |
| 344JE RIGHT SOR (62) J LINGON 11 to 0 |
| 344JE RIGHT SOR (62) J LINGON 11 to 0 |
| 344JE RIGHT SOR (62) J LINGON 11 to 0 |
| 344JE RIGHT SO 

All inture weight: 10st. True handlage weight: Glen Oak Set 12to, Grey Gorden Set 7to, Polo Pony Set 5to, Bubbles Gelore Set 1th. BETTING: \$-1 Total Joy, 5-1 Secret Eld, Blazing Storm, 15-2 Church Lew, 8-1 Pun-ters Bar, Polo Pony, 10-1 Fortunes Course, 12-1 Denvir Bay, 14-1 othors

FORM VERDICT Though Total Joy is at least n form he does look vulnerable at these weights so a speculative "liyer" is taken with DENYER BAY, who has no chance whatsoever on this seasons form but who has plummated in the weights and for whom this better ground is a definite plus. If 0 does generate a re-

turn to some form, he could well go close at a big price. 5.00 HBLB HOSPICE MAIDEN OPEN NH FLAT RACE (H) £1,900 2m 1f 110yds

\_\_R Thor Hr H Denky I MAC 31 OLD STALL MAD J EMBY O'T B.

406 FIFF (20) John Burry 5 11 3

MONAUSHTER R Strongs 5 11 3

EL MONTY R Ahre 4 11 0

JOHNS OF THE CASTLE May J Plenen 4 11 0

A Thornton

R Dunnerody

C Honour (7)

A P McCoy

3.40 NEPTUNE HANDICAP (CLASS C) £9,000 added 7f

### SOUTHWELL

1.40 Repton 2.10 Western Command 2.40 Brandon Magic 3.10 Dovedon Times 3.40 Cool Secret 4.10 Keen Hands 4.40 Sounds Lucky

GOING: Standard STALLS: Incide
DRAW ADVANTAGE: Middle to low bost for 5f; low best for 7f.

M Faresand surface, loft-hand sharp, oval course.

M Faresand surface, loft-hand sharp, oval course.

M Course a 5m W of Newark, Robeston Junction adjoins course. ADMISBION: Cub FC. Tatterasts 65 CAR PARKE Free.

Sign: Cub FC. Tatterasts 55 CAR PARKE Free.

M LEADING TRAINERS: M Johnston 43-222 (1944), S R Bowring 43M LEADING TRAINERS: M Johnston 43-222 (1944), S R Bowring 43
M LEADING JOCKEYS: J Outins 47-519 (914), J Weaver 37-231 (1944), L

Chambert 35-231 (194), G Duffield 33-232 (1424)

B FAVOURITES: 495-M80 (33.44) BLINKERED FIRST TIME: None.

1.40 ZEUS APPRENTICE HANDICAP (F) (DIV I) 12,750 added 1m 4f

12.750 added 1171 4f

Onto Moderakined (21) (CD) Mas 5 Millon 8 8 C

D Young (7) 7

NECO LADY RACHEL (167) (D) (85) J.L. Eyre 4 8 6

D Young (7) 7

NECO LADY RACHEL (167) (D) (85) J.L. Eyre 4 8 6

D Young (9) 4

SASS (REAM BOY (85A) (9) 4 Boby 5 8 7

D SASS (1874) (D) 4 Boby 5 8 7

D SASS (1874) (D) 4 Boby 5 8 7

D SASS (1874) (D) 4 Boby 5 8 7

D SASS (1874) (D) 4 Boby 5 8 7

D SASS (1874) (D) 4 Boby 5 8 7

D SASS (1874) (D) 4 Boby 5 8 7

D SASS (1874) (D) 4 Boby 7 7 7

SASS (1874) (D) 4 Boby 7

SASS (1874) (D)

Manual 70 100. The ways Stephens Res 15 TO, Abra's Can BETTME: 5-2 Lost Spira, 5-2 Shepherds Rest, 5-1 Moorreking, 5-1 Lady Rachel, 7-1 Brand Roy, 8-1 Repton, 18-1 Unitus, 18-1 others 2.10 ZEUS APPRENTICE HANDICAP (F) (DIV II) 52,750 added 1m 4f

1 12.4,731/ 200000 T 107 41 (5374 1019960 THE JOSER (17) (20) Llad-98 10 D Haydon (5) 7 B 01-03 PRICE CAPTAIN (17) (20) 0 MAINS (500) 5 8 (60) ... P Goode 8 01-03 PRICE CAPTAIN (17) (20) 0 M PRICON 3 8 (70) 7 PRICON 3 8 93.500 SAFECRACKER (122) 7 Enterograf 6 8 8 ... P Bradley (5) 1 B

Water State of

TTING: 2-1 Western Command, 5-1 River Captain, 5-1 Karineka, 13-2 John-The Jokas, 8-1 May King Mayham, Double Eche, 16-1 others 2.40 HERA CLASSIFIED CLAIMING STAKES (CLASS F) \$2,750 added 1m

BETTRIC: 4-1 Illianney Jazz, 9-2 Brandon Magic, 6-1 Brocsme Line, 7-1 Kingchip Boy, Moving Princiane, 8-1 Amonym, 70-1 Awwerner Ventore, Eastleigh, 14-1 others

3.10 APOLLO MEDIAN AUCTION MAIDEN \_C Cogun (7) 3 \_\_\_T Williams 6 SETTING: 5-4 See-Belle, 7-2 Dovedon Times, 5-1 So Willing, 7-1 To 10-1 Stightly Dusty, 18-1 Prince Of Ausgon, Risky Experience, 33-1

part at edus cost

4.10 APHRODITE SELLING STAKES (CLASS G) £2,500 added 3YO 7f 2502 KEEN HANDS (9) Ms N MECANY 6 4.
45000 WEET UTHERE (9) (D) R Holinstand 9 4.
45000 WEET UTHERE (9) (D) R Holinstand 9 4.
45000 LADY CAROLINE (9) N Johnston 8 13.
15433 RCH BALLETINA (9) (CD) D Carrol 8 13.
15433 RCH BALLETINA (9) CDD Carrol 8 13.
15433 RCH BALLETINA (9) CDD Carrol 8 13.
15433 RCH BALLETINA (9) KING 10 CARROL 10 CO.
15434 CB PEARL (5) N BYCOTO 10 CO.
15444 CB MECANTON 8 7.
15444 SOLARE M Charmon 8 7. BETTOKO: 9-4 Pich Bellerice, 5-2 Keen Hends, 9-2 West U There, 7-1 E B Pearl Lack Caroline, 12-1 Scoley Scialre, 25-1 Peaha, Notherball 4.40 ACHILLES HANDICAP (CLASS D) £5,250 added 3YO 6f 1 SSS-2 POLIT MILE (27) (C) P Evens 8.7.
2 64-08- APPEL ACE (149) (D) M Cutin 9.8.
3 0-3111 FIRSH CHEAN (16) (CD) A Red 9.0.
4 36-08- RED CHARGER (173) (D) D Naholis 9.12.
5 330-1 ASHOVER AMBER (25) (CD) T D Bento 8.0.
5 2-409- CANTOSEN (URBERTH (10) (CD) N N Nationally 88. Arms 7.
7 008- MILEOTY LELLE (240) K Norty 8.4.
8 08221 SCUNDY LELLE (240) K Norty 8.4.
9 06-2 MUDOY WATER (85) D Number 7.2.
10 00000- RICH DOMOBION (140) J Bettel 7.10.

DESTINATE: 3-1 Authors Amber, Irish Cream, 5-1 Sounds Lucky 7. BETTING: 3-1 Ashover Amber, Irish Cream, 5-1 Sounds Lucky, 7-1 Polly Mills.
Muckly Water, 10-1 Red Charger, Cardyshysorhrouth, 14-1 others

CHELTENHAM

3. Dangerus Precedent "N Williamson 9-1 Also razz 8-1 Alerad, Krále Edige (10th), Sm-ply Gifted (7th), 18-1 Ballysicyce (5th), Frozan Groom (18th), Scarlet Pimpernet (8th), 25-1 Navelino (8th), 28-1 Miss Cripten (pulled up), 40-1 Comiche (13th), Enipeus (14th), 66-1 Miss Para (15th), New Bird (11th), Street Fighter (pul), 100-1 Charles Gold (pul), Piped Aboard (8th), The Gene Gene (17th), 150-1 Imahishway (18th), Inner Light (12th), Take A Turn (felf), 200-1 incepta (19th), 23 ran. 8, 2, 5 /h, /k, 5, 1 1/h, 8, 18, 1/h, 8, /h, 2, 2/h, nk, destance. (Winner boy geld-

4.30: (2mfl)yde Grend Annuel Hosp Chase)
1. SPACE TRUCKER \_ J R Berry 7-2 fav
2. Dinne \_\_\_\_\_ A P McCoy 8-1
3. Hurricene Lamp \_\_\_\_ R Johnson 16-1

Going: Good to Soft (Good in places)

cca .......N Willer Also rest 2-1 jt fev Deands Beend (8th), 16-1 Go-Informal (pul), 25-1 Saffe's Gri (4th), 33-1 Juyush (5th), 33-1 Paddy's Re-tumpole (7th), 50-1 Kerawi (8th), 66-1 Lord Jim (pul), 66-1 Ocean Hawk (10th).

3.15: (3m2/10)dis Challenham Gold Cup Chasel 1. SEE MORE BUSINESS \_M Pizguraid 18-1
2. Go Ballistic \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ A Dobbin 68-1
3. Florida Pearl \_\_\_\_ R Dunwoody 5-2 Fav
Also ran: 7-2 Teston MB (pulled up), 11-2
Dorans Pride (8th), 9-1 Double Thriller
(4th), 11-1 Escarlefty, 9-1 Double Thriller
(4th), 11-1 Escarlefty, 9-1 Double Thriller
(4th), 11-1 Escarlefty, 9-1 Double Thriller
(4th), 18-1 Second (9th), 50-1 Senor El Betrutti
(9th), 68-1 Addington Boy (8th),
12 ran. 1, 17, 14, 31/s, 12, int, 12, 28, (Winner
big galding by Symout Hibris out of Miss
Reclands, trained by P Nicholes, at Shepton
Malet, for P Barber and J Keighley), Tota:
11440; 62-90, 5590, 5200. DF: 521660.
CSF: £569.57. Fricast: £3/68.34. Trilecta:
£4,033.90. Non Runner: Imperial Call.

Alano rare 8-1 Noble Lord (strh.), 9-1 Denses Camiller (strh.), Plying Instructor (10th.), 10-1 Anabranch (18th.), 11-1 Forestal (strh.), 14-1 Amberleigh House (strh.), Country Star (str), 15-1 Luke Karibe (strh.), 20-1 Sublime Fallow (13th), 40-1 Indian Jeckey (14th.), 50-1 Ballowinicism (7th.), 66-1 Robins Price (11th.)

RACING RESULTS

15 ran. 1%, 1.2. 1.7. 8. 8. % % /k /k /k /k /k /k Hard Leville Control of the Control

5.05: (2m 5f Cathcart Cup Chase)

1. STORMYFAIRWEATHER \_\_\_\_\_\_M A Fitzgerald 9-1 Also ran: 11-4 tax Dr. Leun; (Sti), 4-1 Mr. Strong Gale (8th), 4-1 Potentale (4th), 12-1 Chrival de Guerre (pulled up), 20-1 Bobby Grant (8th), 40-1 Cartingland Gale (7th), 50-1 Gazelani (8th). 10 ran. 2, hd, stid, 11, 7, 11/s (1/s distance.

(Winner bay gelding by Strong Gale out of Game Surset, trained by N Henderson at Lambourn, for Mrs C Hambury), Total £200; Lambourn, for Mrs C Hambury, Totas 2500; \$150, \$270, \$190 DF: \$3190, \$55; \$10562. Titass: \$54021, MRs: Bengers Moor, Hoh Ex-press, Nick Dundes.

5.40: (2m 11, County Handicap Hurdio)
1. SIR TALBOT \_\_\_\_\_\_T J Murphy 18-1
2. Decoupage \_N Williamson 100-30 fev
3. Tuto Toscato \_\_\_\_\_\_R Johason 25-1

RICHARD EDMONDSON Nap: Buckland Lad (Folkestone 3.30) **NB: Pietro Bembo** (Folkestone 3.00)

Alao ran: 7-1 Ginger Fox, 9-1 Premier Generation, 10-1 Walk On Mb, 14-1 Ismeno, 18-1 Samplean (uneestad rider), 20-1 Master Boveled, 20-1 Serenus, 25-1 Amitge, Fatehalicher (pulled up), Shanker, Sanntainn (eth.), Young Spartacus, 33-1 Executive Decision (5th.), Once More For Luck, Perzo, Road Racer (pulled up), 40-1 Buddy Marvet, Medalle Mittaire, Sound Appeal, 50-1 Vent d'Aout, 66-1 Danegold, Home Counties, Indiana Princeas, The French Furze.

28 ran. 6, 10, nk, 3, ½, (Winner bay gelding 28 ran. 6. 10, nk. 3, 1/4. (Winner bay gelding by Androes out of Bermude Lily, trained by J Old, at Wroughton, for W E Sturt). Tola: win £1140; places £2.90, £1.70, £9.90, £6.30. DF: £20.30, CSF; £3316, Thosst: £798.38, Non

HEXHAM

2. Apollo's Daughter 4-1; 3 Madge Me-Spleeh. 5 ran. 11/2 1/4 (W Kemp, Dune). Tota: £1480; £280, £210 DF: £3520. CSF: £4245. 1450: 1. DOOK'S DELIGHT (A S Smith)
14-1; 2. Senta Jet (owns tax); 3. Felcon's
Fleme (7-1); 10 ren. 1. 3'A. (R Fahey, Melton).
10to: 200,80; 2350, 5'10, 5240, DF: 2620,
CSF: C28,82, 7:coest: 5'73,77; NRs: Carley Peter Vallone, who said he believed that Lewig was "robbed".

The choice of judges was controversial from the start.

Ic Commission has its own inquiry, prompted by the state governor George Pataki, and a probe by the New York Attorney General has been suspended

/h, 2, 2h, nk, distance. (Winner bey get-ing by Pistolet Bleu out of Katevene, trained by N Handarson, at Lambourn, for Mr Robert Watey-Cohen). Tota: £350; £150, £400, £250, £180. Dual Forecast £5100. Com-

12 ran. rik, 21/4, 5, 6, 6, 31/4, 21/4, 3, 19. (Winner bey gelding by Archass out of Muzneh, trained by 0 Nicholson at Temple Guiting for The Old Foresters Partnership), Tole: 592-40; C720, E150, Dual forecast: 595-40, Com-puter Straight Forecast: 510731 Tricast: 5303-00

Runners: Barne Boy, Kathryn's Pet. Jackpot: \$233,06580 (pert won, pool of \$295,47362 to Fakenham today).

Gong: Soft (Heavy in places) 2.25: 1. CHARNWOOD JACK (B Harding)
4-5 fay; 2. Turkish Tower 11-4; 3.
Howyoudoing 8-1.5 ran. 3/4, 2 (Martin Tod-huritst, Ulversion). Tota: £150; £140, £180.
07: £250. CSF: £349.
3.00: 1. CUICK MARCH (N Horrocks) 1-4 3.00: 1. GUICK MARCH (N Horrocks) 1-4 for; 2. Hart Lodge 14-1; 3. Arisenja (2-1.7 ran. 7.28. (E Waymes, Leyburn), Totas £120: 4.15: 1. DOUBLE BUCK (D O'Suliven) 10-1;

Lad, Cultane Lake 5.25: 1. ZAMHAREER (N Horrooks) 4-1; 2 Five Fings (4-1); 3. D'Arbiny Street (5-1), 0 ran. 'A, 24 (R. Ford, Tarportey) Tote: 0410; 5230, 5400 DF: £1020, CSF: £1077.

Going: Standard 1.50: 1. STATISTICIAN (Mr A Evans) 11-4

fav; 2. Derk Menace 10-1; 3. Keffi 12-1, 12 ran. %, hd. (John Berry). Tote: £440; £210, £480, £310, DF: £6050, CSF: £3538, Tricast: E29663. 2.20: 1. ANOKATO (Dean McKeown) 9-2; 2. Speedy Classic 9-4 fav; 3. Brist Quest 9-1. 13 ran. ½, 9. (Mrs N Macauley) Totac E550; E240, E110, E210. Dual Forecast: E710.

CSF: £1400

CSF: E1400. 2.55: 1. PALACEGATE TOUCH (P Bradley) 5-2: 2. Krystall Max evens fav; 3. Muta-servens 15-1. B ran. 1, 1½. [J Borry). Tota: E410; £160, £100, £310. Dual Forecast: £2.20, CSF: £5.21. 2220, CSF: 2521.
3.30: 1. TEAR WHITE (T Qurin) 3-1; 2. Friendly Brave 9-1; 3. Soeked 7-4 fex. 9 ran. 11/h. nk. (T Mile), Toke: 2430; 2240, 2180, 2170. DF: 21590. CSF: 22309. Tripast:

4.10: 1. SCRAGGYS DREAM (R Cochrane) 4-10: 1. SCHAUGTS DEEAM (F COCHAP), 9-4 fav; 2. Thelcryand 5-2; 8 Ki Chi Saga 8-1, 12 ran. 1½, 3. (P Mitchell) Tota: \$2,80; \$180, \$170, \$180, DF: \$870, CSF: \$808.

Tricast: £43.8.
4.40: 1. BANBURY (J Gotobad) 5-2; 2.
Space Race t1-4; 3. Sheer Native 5-4 fav.
4 ran. 3, 1% (C Dwyer) Tols: £440 DF: £700.
CSF; £5.72. NR: Martha Reily.
5.15: 1. WAIKIN BEACH (Mr B Hitchcott)
12-1; 2. Denbrae 7-2; 3. Melomaria: £1.12
ran. 5-2 fav Gadge (4th). Tols: £13.80;
£250, £120, £850 DF: £200. CSF; £5125
Tricast £50.88 Tocast: £50186. Placepot: £4330. Quadpot: £880 Place 8: £35.01. Place 5: £12.26.

■ Danny O'Sullivan's five-anda-half-hour trip from the West Country for a chance ride at Hexham paid off when Double Buck won the conditional riders' hurdle. O'Sullivan, 22, rode in Ireland for Tommy Stack and Arthur Moore before joining Bob Buckler in Dorset last year. "This is my fourth winner," he said. "You just have to go where the rides are.'

Fakenham 3.50 C H L 9 metatt 11-8 evs 5-4 6-5 5-4 41 51 51 11-2 11-2 74 7-2 61 11-2 5-1 Get The Point 11-2 7-1 6-1 13-2 8-1 Anticum Fiver 11-1 12-1 6-1 10-1 9-1 Etheristo 12-1 12-1 12-1 11-1

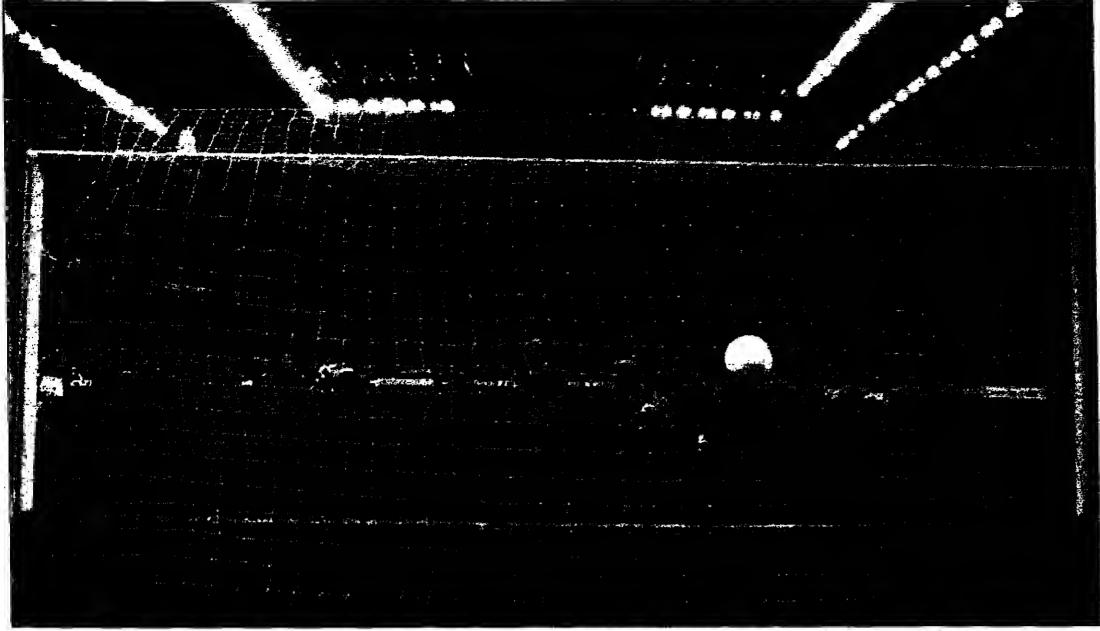
Cadbury Castie 141 181 161 181 141

FIRST SHOW

Sturred 20-1 20-1 14-1 18-1 14-1 Plumby Result 14-1 20-1 16-1 16-1 20-1 C Count H Win HR & Litebrokes, 5 Stanley T Tobe \*THE IND NDENT **RACING SERVICES** 0891 261 + LIVE COMMENTARIES RESULTS FOLKESTONE 971 981 FAKENHAM 972 982 SOUTHWELL 973 983 ALL COURSES RESULTS <u>0891 261 970</u>

Fig. 12,693.00. APR 8.4%. Ruther charges may be made 53.75. Total charge for credit £2,435.95 (includes a finance facility fee of £70, payable with the first process of the finance agreement. Written quotations





Paul Scholes turns away in celebration after scoring the goal which earned Manchester United a draw against Internazionale and a place in the European Cup semi-finals

### United square up to the giants

IT WAS nearing midnight, one-by-one, they meekly somewhere in San Siro's labyrinthine network of corridors, and Peter Schmeichel was describing his joy at Manchester United's progress into the semi-finals of the European Champions' Cup.

A commotion approached, a rolling maul of big-shouldered men with taut faces surrounded by jostling television crews and journalists. Somewhere in the centre was Ronaldo.

It was a narrow corridor and, as the Brazilian's entourage reached Schmeichel's gathering they tried to edge him out of the way. Then they tried to push him towards the door The Dane paused in mid-sentence, fixed the nearest heavy with a glare usually reserved for defenders, and growled: "Cool it".

squeezed past the impassive goalkeeper. As Ronaldo edged by, he looked respectfully up at Schmeichel. It was the expression of a vulnerable young man under pressure, not a world superstar. While one hopes Ronaldo is

strong enough to cope with the unreasonable demands on him. and that he recovers his peerless hrilliance, the incident highlighted United's poise on Wednesday night. Despite being over-run at times they never panicked and, in the face of considerable provocation, never lost their heads.

Roy Keane, himself no stranger to hot-headed reaction, typified United's collective cool with a commanding captain's lead. He was proudest.

Respect is the common denominator as the last four teams go into the European Cup draw. By Glenn Moore

Francesco Colonnese threw the ball at him. A year ago, as all England knows, Beckham would have retaliated.

"We knew their players would he hostile, try to intimidate us and try to get us sent off," said Keane, "but that incident showed we've come through that learning process.

"Having the ball thrown in your face is hard to take but, all fair play to Becks, he just walked away and that's what it's

"There were a lot of crazy things going on in the game, lots of oranges and coins being thrown at us and they were The minder shrank back, however, of the way David diving and over-reacting. But appearance suggests, he has the preferred opposition. They, lies. In Serhiy Rehrov and common denominator at this

we handled it." Alex Ferguson, whose pre-

match call for a strong referee bore spectacular fruit, said: "We have learned lessons. This is still a young team but some of them have played 20-odd matches in the Champions' League in the last three years and that experience is vital."

So, too, have been Fergu-son's summer additions. If Dwight Yorke starred in the first leg a fortnight ago. Wednesday was Jaap Stam's turn to shine.

Surprisingly quick off the technically adept than his sive final appearance, may be the commotion hushed and, Beckham had kept his temper the referee kept on top of it and brought an air of confidence to too, are unbeaten in Europe Andriy Shevchenko-who joins

a United back-line which used to look ill-at-ease in Europe. There has consequently

been a solidity to their results during a European odyssey which has now lasted eight months. Unlike Dynamo Kiev and Bayern Munich, two of the other semi-finalists. United are still unbeaten in their 10 games and, while they have only won four, that is twice as many as Juventus, the other unbeaten

Today United will find out which team bar their way to the final. There are no makeweights but Juventus, despite mark for a big man, and more seeking their fourth succes-

Greece on Wednesday, have have a front pairing to match shown an impressive rethat of Yorke and Andy Cole. silience. But they are in a Another concern for United is period of change with Carlo the inevitable complications of Ancelotti trying to keep the travelling to Ukraine, rather departed Marcello Lippi's team than western Europe. together for Europe while plan-Bayern Munich, like United, only finished second in their ning his own XI for next season.

and, as in their performance in Milan in the summer - they

Dynamo Kiev, the only remaining team never to have won the competition, or even make the final for that matter, appear to have overcome the spring slump usually experienced by teams from the former Soviet. Union. The Ukrainian league leaders they have won every title since independence - have both held onto their leading players and combated the effect of their

prolonged winter break with a lengthy programme of friend-

domestic league last season but they are now regarded as the biggest threat. United drew home and away with them in last month after leading the qualifying and, while lucky not Turin club to three Serie A to have won in Munich, could easily have lost at Old Trafford. They lead the Bundesligo by Zamo-rano yesterday suggest-

14 points and underlined their Kaiserslauten away from bome on Wednesday. Whoever United get they

will not fear them, but nor will they he feared. Respect is the a Santiago newspaper.

### Lucescu digs his heels in at Inter

THE INTERNAZIONALE coach, Mircea Lucescu, is refusing to ouit despite calls for his resignation after his team were eliminated from the European Cup by Manchester United.

United and Inter drew 1-1 on Wednesday at San Siro, but the Premiership leaders won 3-1 on aggregate to reach the semi-finals of the competition.

"I'm staying as long as I have the support of the club and the team," Lucescu said. "So far. there hasn't been a moment when I've thought 'I can't go on' and, if it happened, I'd say so."

Admitting his own mistakes, he said: "If we are in this situly greater than the others. "Tve had difficulties and I've made mistakes. There were times when I could have gone for a result but told the team to concentrate more on their game. And that was an error."

Ronaldo's extended absences with knee problems derailed Inter's entire season. according to the club's president. "Above all, we really missed him this season." Massimo Moratti said yesterday. "From his injury, many things have gone wrong. Ronaldo was too tight last night, and he was marked by two very strong players who beat him to the ball every time. It was still great of him to stay on the field as long as possible, but not even he has

Ronaldo has played sparingly while struggling with knee tendinitis. The Brazilian striker has appeared in 11 of Inter's 25 league games, scoring six goals. Last season, by contrast, he set a Serie A record for a foreign newcomer by finding the net 25 times.

Moratti also indicated that the long-rumored hiring of Marcello Lippi as coach will happen during the close season. The present incumbent, Lucescu, was brought aboard Simoni was fired in November. Lippi quit as coach of Juventus

titles in four years. . The Chilean striker Ivan ed he will stay with Inter despite form with the 4-0 demolition of the strong interest by Atletico Madrid to lure him back to Spain. "I have no intection of leaving Milan." Zamorano wrote in his weekly column in

> mates and especially with the fans, "allows me to say that I will complete my contract" through next season, "and probably add one additional year"

But Zamorano, who transferred from Real Madrid to Inter in 1996, added: "I am not closed to any possibilities, but I am not planning to move

from here. "I think too much importance was paid to the Atletico situation, but it never crossed my mind the idea of returning to Spain," Zamorano wrote in a column in another paper.

Diego Simeone will be out for three weeks after spraining his left ankle in Milan on Wednesday. The Argentine midfielder collided with Peter Schmeichel, and limped off the field in the 32nd minute.

"Simeone is in very had shape," Lucescu said. "His ankle is swollen and I'm afraid we're going to have to do without him for a long time - at least

### Real earn praise despite crashing in Kiev

Real Madrid received bouquets rather than the customary hrickbats from the Spanish media despite going out of the competition on Wednesday.

Real, now coached by John Toshack, lost their quarterfinal 3-1 on aggregate to Dynamo Kiev after being beaten 2-0 in the second leg in Ukraine.
"The best don't always win,"

the sports daily As editor, Alfredo Relano, said yesterday. "Madrid had the ball, the pitch, the discipline and the spirit. Kiev had none of those but everything hinged on the two occasions when [Andriy] Shevchenko got the opportunities he required and that was enough." Relano added

RESULTS EUROPEAN CUP-WINNERS' CUP QUARTER-FINAL SECOND LEG

PONTINS LEAGUE Third Division: Wigan MESDAY'S LATE RESULTS: Euro-e Cup quarter-finals second leg: Di-o Kieu 2 Real Madnd O (Dynamo Kieu - I on aggregate), Internazionale I Man-

Chester Utc. 1 (Nanchester Und win 3-1 on opp): Knoerskulern O Bayern Munch 4 (Born Munch win 6-0 on opg): Ohympulos 1 Juvernus 1 (Juvernus van 3-2 on opg): Mationaudio Conference: Forest Green Rovers 1 Yeord Nown 2. Dr. Blantans Middland Divisions: Paget Rongers 0 Moor Green 1. Southerns Divisions Brackley O Buldock 1. Winspesieland Meast League Pression 1 Olisakous: Canterbury City O Greensich Borough 1. Muller Sussex County League Piers Divisions: Est Pression 1 Chichester 3. Hassocies 2 Languey Sports O. Javesson Wassen Languar Covers Sports S. Gosport Borough 0. Hamste ASSC 1 Whitchurch 2 Amost Insurance Meethern Leaguer Piers Division Western Leaguer Covers Sports 5 Gospan Sandoyan, Namide Sections 1 Whitchurch 2 Alrence Insurance Needshore League First Distailors Guisborough 2 Ballungham Synthenis 0 The These Fit Needshore Capture Crystal Palace 0 Arsenal 1 (acrt). Press & Jonessa Highland Languer Cactunesuddin 2 Reich 2; Hunthy 2 Fraserburgh 1; Rothes 1 Peter-ead 3 Wielah Cung question-final replays Codwy 1 Amerisaford 0 Feedfast Languer Second Divisions Blackpool 0 Newcaste 1; Hundorsheld 2 Work 0; Rotherham 1 Strewsbury 3, Scarborough 2 Notes Companies of Carlot 1, Bury 1 had 0 Chesterfield 1 Hartlepool 1 Languer Cop questrenfield 1 Hartlepool 1 Languer Cop questrenfields; Optimized 1 Notwich 4: Binghton 1 Wenternam Second 1 Notwork 4: Binghton 1 Wenternam 1 Notwer 4: Binghton 1 Wenternam 1 Notwer 4: Binghton 1 Wenternam 5 Erection 4: Binghton 1 Wenternam 5 Erection 4: Binghton 1 Wenternam 5 Erection 4 Notwer 5 Erection 4 Medical Part 5 Erection 4 Notwer 5 Erection 4 Medical Part 5 Erection 4 Notwer 5 Erection 4 Medical Part 5 Erection 4 Notwer 5 Erection 4 Medical Part 5 Erection 4 Notwer 5 Erection 4 Medical Part 5 Erection 4 Notwer 5 Erection 4 Medical Part 5 Erection 4 Notwer 5 Erection 4 Medical Part 5 Erection 4 Notwer 5 Erection 4 Notwer 5 Erection 4 Notwer 5 Erection 4 Medical Part 5 Erection 4 Notwer 5 Erection 4 Medical Part 5 Erection 4 Notwer 5 Erection 4 Medical Part 5 Erection 4 Notwer 5 Erection 4 Medical Part 5 Erection 4 Medi Insurance Combination First Distalous
Brentford 1 Morwich & Biggitton 1 Wender
Jedon 1, Cambridge Life 3 Southampton
4, Gilengham 1 West Ham 1, Luton 3
Weycombe 1, Catrod Life 2 Barner Q. Peterborough 1 Bournemouth 1: Walford 3
Cacetts Park Rangers 2 Dusbe Languer
Cambuut Lecuniarden 1 Feyencod 5, NAC
Breda 0 WKC Waldweyk 2: Fortuna Sattard 3
Utrecht 2 Priending Boulogne (Fr) 2 Liserpool 1

,

leave the Cup with their heads held high," while El Mundo described it as "a downfall with dignity."

coach and players were left to bitterly contemplate their departure in the unfamiliar subzero temperatures of the Ukrainian capital. The costly defeat, both in terms of money and morale, leaves Real Madrid having to concentrate on their domestic campaigns. They are sixth in the 20-team Spanish First Division, headed by their bitter rivals Barcelona, and are Spanish Cup. However, an improvement in their form is vital

vamped Champions' League. Meanwhile Shevchenko, a shy 22-year-old, was hailed a na-

tional here by his country. Thousands of cheering fans However, the Real Madrid crowded the streets near the stadium after the game, waving yellow-and-hlue Ukrainlan flags. Yesterday Ukrainian television repeatedly hroadcast footage from the game and the post-match celebrations, showing President Leonid Kuchma passionately cheering along with an 88,000-strong sell-out

"Never before in our histoalso in the semi-finals of the ry have we seen so many people in the stadium cheering our team's success," Kuchma The Spanish sports daily if they are to claw their way said on television inside the

THE EUROPEAN Cup holders Mnrcn commented: "The back into the top four and en- Dynamo dressing room after champions were the best and sure entry into next season's re- the game. He personally congratulated every Kiev player, kissing the veteran coach Valery Lobanovsky three times on the cheek.

Also celebrating were Bayern Munich, whose coach, Ottmar Hitzfeld, said he believed his men could beat anyhody after they demolished Kaiserslautern 4-0 to reach the last four for the first time in four years. "Manchester United and Juventus, obviously, are very strong opponents and Kiev look really dangerous," Hitzfeld said after his team completed their impressive 6-0 aggregate victory. "We're not taking any team lightly but I do believe we can

beat anybody."

Bayern, who have not put Bayern hired Hitzfeld, hoping their hands on the European Cup since the last of three consecutive triumphs in 1976, last appeared in the semi-finals in 1995, when they lost to the eventual winners Ajax. The Bavarians are in a class of their own at home this season, 14 points clear of secondplaced Kaiserslautern in the Bundesliga standings. They look too good for Werder Bremen, whom they will meet in the German Cup final on 12 June in Berlin. But although the club president Franz Beckenbauer claims providing entertainment is more important to him that titles, he dearly wants success in Europe'a

showcase tournament. It was for that reason that

he could do for them what he did for their arch-rivals Borussia Dortmund, steering them to victory in the 1997 European Cup.
The club'a general manager,
Reckenhauer

Uli Honess, like Beckenbauer a prominent member of Bayern's formidable side of the 1970s, says it is their best team in decades. "In my days we had hrilliant individualities hut today, all the players are strong, even those who are not in the first team," he said. There were fears that Bay-

ern would he weakened by the absence of the Brazilian striker Giovane Elber, who tore ligaments in his left knee in a league match at the weekend and will be out of action for final."

But his fellow striker Carsten Jancker proved hecould be a match winner, scoring two goals on Wednesday and being involved in the other two. The French World Cup winning wing-back Bixente

Lizarazu, asked which team he would like to face next, named Juventus. "They are a great team," he said. "It would

But when he was reminded that two of his team-mates in that World Cup-winning team, Didier Deschamps and Zinedine Zidane, were playing for Juventus, Lizarazu added: "Maybe it would be a pity to best them in the semi-finals. Let's have them only in the

### Robins aim for the top

row host a fixture which will have a big say in deciding the destination of the Nationwide Conference title. Second-placed Cheltenham Town entertain the leaders, Kettering Town, knowing that a victory will take them to the top of the table on goal difference.

With four games in hand on their Northamptonshire rivals, the Gloucestershire club are the bookmakers' favourites to lift not just the litle but the FA Umbro Trophy, in which they visit Emley in the quarter-finals tomorrow week. Indeed, the greatest threat to the Robins' hopes of promotion to the Nationwide League may come not from Kettering but from third-placed Rushden & Diamonds, who are three points adrift of Cheltenham having played the same number of

All three title hopefuls were in action on Tuesday, and all had to settle for draws. Cheltenham were held 0-0 at home by strug-

NON-LEAGUE NOTEBOOK BY RUPERT METCALF

gling Farnborough Town, while Kettering's trip to Woking also saw neither goalkeeper beaten. Rushden, who visit Morecambe tomorrow, let a two-goal lead slip in a 2-2 draw at home to Dover Athlelic.

Steve Cotterill, Cheltenham's manager, was not surprised that the top three all dropped points. "It's a tough league," he said, "there are no easy games. Whoever wins the league will deserve it.

"I'm up for it, hut I'm not tense." Cotterill added. "Tve got to keep my head so that the players keep theirs." While Kettering have sold

their promising 19-year-old striker Ben Wright to Bristol City for £30,000, Cheltenham have been adding to their options up front. They paid a fivefigure fee to Farnborough on outfit despite missing a first-half up hope," he said, "as an early Wednesday for Dennis Bailey, penalty, said: "This was even goal could prove vital."

Queen's Park Rangers against Colchester in the FA Cup be-Manchester United at Old Trafford. The 31-year-old striker. of playing at Wembley." Like who watched Tuesday's encounter between his old and new teams, has scored 21 goals in all competitions this season.

Whoever loses out in the Conference title race this term may still be facing Nationwide League opposition next season. Rumours are circulating that Conference clubs may be in-Windscreens Shield.

It will require the biggest for the FA Carisberg Vase final. The Northumberland side travel to Thame United for tomorrow's semi-final second leg in Somerset. with a 5-0 lead from the first leg

ast weekend. John Milner, who scored a hat-

cause it gives us a real chance Thame, the Essex men found Bedlington too hot to handle, going down 4-1 in a first-round Cup tie in November.

Keith Perry, the Bedlington manager, said: "We are in the driving seat now, and if we don't get to Wembley then we don't deserve to. I will never forget this season. It's a rollervited to compete in the Auto coaster ride that just keeps on getting better." In the other Vase semi, the

shock in the tournament's his-holders, Tiverton Town, are altory if Bedlington Terriers are most as well placed as the Terto he denied a trip to Wembley riers. The Devon team enjoy a 3-0 advantage over their Screwfix Direct League title rivals, Taunton Town, after the first leg

Russell Musker, Taunton's manager, remains positive The Terriers' top scorer against the odds, however. "We've left ourselves a mountrick against the Oxfordshire tain to climb but we won't give

### McAllister recalled by depleted Scotland

manager, has restored Gary McAllister to the international scene ahead of his team's European Championship qualifiers against Bosnia at Ibrex and the Czech Republic at Parkhead at the end of the month.

played for his country against vember 1997 before a knee injury ruled him out of last year's World Cup. Brown invited the 34-year-old to the tournament as a non-playing member of the party and has now recalled him to the ranks.

This loyalty from Brown has not always been shared hy the national coach denied any suggestions of favouritism. "I am very pleased that Gary is back and I think football people know his qualities. He's a team player who is highly respected in the squad alongside Hearts'

CRAIG BROWN, the Scotland By TOMMY STANIFORTH

within the game. The fans maybe want younger players. but Gary has been brilliant since his return to fitness and in my view is one of the best midfield players in England," The Coventry midfielder last Brown said. "He has been outstanding of late which justifies France in St-Etienne in No- his inclusion and I don't think anyone could ever fault his contribution for Scotland."

With at least 10 players ruled out through injury Brown admitted his options were limited to the extent where much of the squad selected itself.

Among the injured are the first-choice strike partnership some Scotland supporters, but of Kevin Gallacher of Blackburn, who has a damaged calf, and Rangers' Gordon Durie, out with an Achilles problem. Everton's Don Hutchison is one of three uncapped players

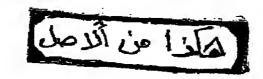
Paul Ritchie and the Dundee

goalkeeper, Robert Douglas. Brown is clearly concerned his side will struggle to pose enough of a goal threat but is confident Hutchison can perform at international level. "It is alarming we have no recognised striker in the squad, but Everton have been using Don Hutchison to play there and he has done well in that role."

The striking shortage means Brown will also look to the midfield for goals, where Leeds' David Hopkin is likely to play, while Aberdeen's Eoin Jess will lead the front-line.

will lead the front-line.

SCOTLAND SOUND (Envoyeen Champion-ship qualifying marches v Bossia, 27 March, Ibrus, and v Cook Republic, 21 March, Parkhendi Gossinospers: Good (Celtic), Sulfian (Mambledon), Hain (St Johnston), Douglas (Dundee). Devandens: Boyd (Celtic), Douglas (Dundee). Devandens: Beyd (Celtic), Bordeferon; Michamers (Celtic), Matheward (Person), Minyte (Aberden), Michamers (Celtic), Matheward (Person), Minyte (Aberden), Michamers (Celtic), Matheward (Celtic), Bernard (Person), Hegisian (Leoth, Lambert (Celtic), Machiner (Courty), Formanda: Dedds (Dundee United), Hadelston (Leotron), Man (Aberden), Johnston (Entertain), Michamer (Aberden), Johnston (Entertain), Michamer (Person), Man (Person), Johnston (Entertain), Michamer (Person), Johnston (Entertain), Michamer (Person), Johnston (Entertain), Michamer (Person), Johnston (Person), Johnston



an isother of

### Wary Foxes make plans for Ginola

MARTIN O'NETLL is still to decide whether his Leicester side will man-mark Tottenham's David Ginola in Sunday's Worthington Cup final.

Ginola represents the biggest threat to the Foxes' chances of winning the comnetition for the second time in three years. But O'Neill insists he has not yet thought about the possibility of detailing a player to shadow Ginola at Wembley.

Pontus Kaamark did well when he was deployed to combat the influence of Juninho in the two encounters with Middlesbrough in 1997 but the Swede has not been a regular for Leicester this season.

Juninho was playing brilhantly at the time and the comparisons are obvious, with Ginola playing out of his skin at the moment," O'Neill said yesterday. The two play in different roles and different positions but the parallels are there. But today is the first day I've really thought about the game, with the media attention we're getting.

"Ginola is clever enough to wangle his way out of any situation but we'll certainly have a talk about it. The guy is world class and I'd love him to be playing with us rather than against . us. But that's not going to happen, so we'll have to get on with it. Pontus played Juninho very well and played him fairly but

BY GORDON TYNAN

there were periods in the Middlesbrough games which people forget when Juninho got

Leicester's Frank Sinclair will go into the final believing his summer move from Chelsea has been more than justified. Sinclair scored for Chelsea in last season's League Cup win over Middlesbrough at Wembley but a groin injury suffered in the same match meant it proved to be his last appearance for the club.

He missed out on Cheisea's European Cup-Winners' Cup win and then decided Stamford Bridge's extensive foreign legion would mean limited firstteam chances and decided to move to Filbert Street in a club record £2.5m deal

maica in last summer's World Cup finals, admits he "signed blindfolded" because he knew little about the Foxes, but insisted he moved to the Midlands to win trophies, Now he will achieve that

aim if O'Neill's side can overcome Tottenham, who are the favourites to take the next step towards a possible League Cup and FA Cup double.

justified my move from Chelses and there will be planty of boys at Chelsea envying me when it comes to cup final day," said Sinclair. "It will be my wildest dream come true to play at Wembley again."

Spurs' Darren Anderton has already buried one "jinx" by helping to guide Tottenham to the Worthington final and is now determined to demonstrate he is more than a injury-prone 'nearly man". The England midfielder had

lost five semi-finals during his playing career before he made it sixth time bucky with victory over Wimbledon in the last four of the Worthington Cup last

Anderton suffered semi-final defeats in the FA Cup with Portsmouth in 1992, at Spurs in 1993 and 1995, and with England

"I was beginning to believe Sinclair, who played for Ja- I was jinxed when it comes to cups, and particularly semi-fi-nals," Anderton yesterday. "T have lost four that everybody knows about - with Portsmouth, Spurs twice and England - but I even lost a Youth Cup semi with Pompey too. It makes you think it is just not meant to be. So to finally reach this cup final means a lot to me because I have had so many disappointments in semi-finals - now this really makes up for it."



Tony Cottee moves out of line at Leicester City's photo-call yesterday as Tottenham's opponents prepare for Sunday's Worthington Cup final at Wembley

### Henman's top five incentive

THE KEY BISCAYNE tournament began its 15th and final onships yesterday before con-Ericsson. It is not often that a commercial link is severed with sentimentality, but the Lipton has been everybody's cup of tea, bringing together the men's and women's tours for one of the most successful events outside the four Grand

Fittingly, all but one of the world's too 20 men are here (the American Todd Martin is resting an injured stomach muscle for the Davis Cup tie against Britain at Easter) with the No 1 ranking up for grabs again, and five former women's champions are competing.

Many changes have taken place here over the years, not least the fact that Britain now has players good enough to enjoy the luxury of sitting out the opening round of the men's event waiting for opponents. Greg Rusedski, who slipped out of the top 10 after narrowly losing to Tim Henman in the third round at Indian Wells last week, ought to be primed to make a speedy move up from No 13 with few points to defend in the months ahead, and Henman is only one place from breaking into the top five. Henman's second round opponent is Cecil Mamit, from Los Angeles, who yesterday defeated his American compatriot Paul Goldstein 4-6, 6-2, 7-5. Rusedski plays the Romanian Adrian Voinea, who was too strong for David Caldwell, a qualifier from

Virginia, winning 6-0, 6-3. Mamit, ranked No 86, gained minor prominence last month by reaching his first ATP Tour final at the Sybase Open in San Jose, California. En route he defeated Kenneth Carlsen, watched Andre Agassi swear himself to disqualification and had wins against Mark Woodforde and Michael Chang. Mark Philippoussis was too strong for Mamit in the final. Then again, the Australian denied Carlos Moya the Indian Wells title last week after the Spaniard had

BY JOHN ROBERTS in Key Biscayne, Florida

Yesterday it seemed that Mamit would find Goldstein too good for him, particularly after double-faulting three times in a row to go 0-3 down in the opening set. Goldstein, it may be remembered, is the college boy who eliminated Rusedski in the second round of the Australiao Open.

Mamit might lack height (5ft 8in), but the 22-year-old of Filinino extraction is a game competitor. Although he was unable to convert either of two break points for 4-4 in the opening set. he outplayed Goldstein in the second set and recovered a break of serve to win the final

Henman has actually defeated Mamit on slow clay courts in satellite events in Florida, albeit before the Briton began his climb up the rankings. "From what I re-member, Tim is the type of player who puts a lot of pressure on you, especially on your second serve," the American said. "He's a crafty player and he obviously has a lot more experience than me."

Mamit said his progress in the San Jose event had given him a lot of confidence. "It's good to look back on that tournament, and how I came through against the good players, and gave them a good match. When I saw the draw here I really wanted to play against someone of Tim's stature."

Not surprisingly, given his own stature, Mamit models himself on Chang. "But I try to be aggressive as well," he said. One of his ambition is is to play in the main draw at Wimbledon. "I played in the qualifying event in 1997, and lost in the first round," he said.

Voinea, ranked No 77, has the look of a right-handed Rusedski, partly because he is tall and .... lean, but also because he sports a headband. He has never will do well to counter the British No 2's serve.

### Robson relieved to recruit O'Neill

ALTHOUGH MIDDLESBROUGH are thought to be attempting to entice Dino Baggio to England, the ciub made a more prosaic purchase last night when they completed the £700,000 signing of the Norwich City forward Keith O'Neill

The 23-year-old Republic of Ireland international was on Teesside for a medical yesterday side Stadium until 2003.

· 100 · 100

article Larger .

et : .... - - . .

. . . A- .

Service and the service of the servi

Samuel of the Control

المشارين على

recalled

Bryan Robson, the Middlesbrough manager, was delighted with his new acquisition, who at one time was valued at around £4m. "Keith is strong and very quick," he said. "He is also a useful utility player in that he is equally at home wide on the left

or at centre-forward. " tential is a great price, consid- defence.

ering Norwich turned down a ple of years ago."

the end of the season and could have moved abroad on a free transfer under the Bosman ruling. His arrival at the Riverside "Given a good run, we feel be ends Robson's search for an ference at the club's Rockliffe has the ability to become an ex- out-and-out winger, and sugcellent player because £700,000 gests that he could be prefor a player of his ability and popared to abandon his five-man

Robson almost signed the confirm his return to fitness dured a miserable time since fam bid from Newcastle a cou- Northern Ireland internation- with a hat-trick for the reserves arriving at Tannadice Park and O'Neill would have been out castle last summer until a

of contract at Carrow Road at medical scuppered the deal. O'Neill, who made 86 appearances for Norwich over five seasons, scoring 10 goals, will be unveiled at a press con-Park training ground today.

positive news for Robson, who the Second Division. The for- for the First Division match sold | supplanted Pete Sampras as

al Keith Gillespie from New- on Wednesday night. Both the United manager, Paul Sturcould be included in the squad for Saturday's trip to Nottingham Forest, although it is unlikely that either will make the starting team.

Manchester City are set to sign the Dundee United forward Alex Mathie to help with His signing follows other their push for promotion from Leisure Centre after tickets saw the striker Alun Armstrong mer Ipswich striker has en- out earlier this week.

rock, is looking to cut his losses. However, with City still in financial trouble, Sturrock may be forced into a player-exchange deal.

Sunderland are to screen Saturday's home game with Bolton at the city's Crowtree

### **Thomas** succumbs to injury

### ATHLETICS

IWAN THOMAS, the Commonwealth 400 metre champion, was due to fly home from Johannesburg yesterday after an ankle injury sustained during training cut short his South African track campaign.

The Welshman, a regular runner on the South African summer circuit, was due to line up with the former world champion, Antonio Pettigrew. and his fellow American, Jerome Young, at the high-altitude Ruimsig Stadium track near Johannesburg today.

Morocco's Abdeikader El Mouaziz, the surprise runnerup in the 1998 Flora London Marathon, will run in this year's event on 18 April, His addition to the field adds further depth and quality to the strongest a hig-city marathon.

Last year El Mouaziz took the race by storm when he built a decisive lead in the closing stages. However, Spain's bel Anton, urged on by Porgap and with fewer than 600 metres to go the world champion took the lead and went on to win the race. El Mouaziz finished second in a Moroccan record.

### TODAY'S NUMBER

40,000 The number of Australian dollars

(£15,500)

**Suctioneers** expect to be raised for charity by an international cap belonging to Sam Loxton, one of Don Bradman's 1948 cricket tourists.

#### ATHLETICS

Vita Pavlysh, the Ukrainian shot put-ter, has tested positive for the an-abolic steroid stanozolol after winning the gold medal at the World Indoor Championship in Maewond indoor championship in wae-bashi, Japan, earlier this month and has been banned for two years by her federation, Pavlysh will be stripped of her gold medal, which will go to Irina Korzhanenko, of Rus-sia, the silver medallist in Maebashi.

#### BASKETBALL

Leicester City Riders' disma) season took another dive yesterday when the Budweiser League Club's lead-ing scorer JaRon Boone returned to the United States for family reasons. the United States for Family reasons, and is not expected to return.

NEA: Boston 118 LA Clippers 84; Philadelphia 114 Indiana 110; Miami 86 Astanta 85; Charlotte 119 Phoenix 111; Foronto 103 Detroix 101; New Jersey 88 Dallas 87; Chando 103 Oktago 94; Houston 114 Denver 109; San Antonio 82 Golden State 78.

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Minrai	7 .708 9 .609 9 .591 3 .409 2 .400	17: 47: 87: 87:
New Jersey	7 .682 9 .571 0 .565 1 .522 0 .500 2 .429 4 .333 6 .273	27/2 27/2 37/2 57/4 77/4
Western Conde	RENCE HON L PCT 4 .818 8 .652 9 .625 9 .565 5 .333 7 .261 9 .174	37:2 37:2 4 57: 11 127: 147:
Portland	5 .//3	. 1

\_\_12 9 .571 4½ ....12 11 .522 5½ ....11 13 .458 7 ....9 14 .391 8½ .....1 21 .045 16

BOWLS

BOWLS

WOMEN'S HOME INTERMATIONAL
MODOR CHAMPIONSNIP (Beffaet):
Sections by Wales 135-103 (So stips
first EWNen by 50 Mer 76-13; A Christe
first EWNen by 50 Mer 76-13; A Christe
first in J Achland 19-21; A Metrose by D
formismis 23-14; J Comlan by M Tanner
23-14; E McGarvie lost to L Euris 16-28;
J Syles by A Celtico 28-13; Mariand by
Males 123-100 (Iff skips first: J Mutholland by L Euris 23-13; O Baird by O Roulands 27-15; J Fearis by J Ackland 24-21,
A McGalimers by A Quanco 23-17; C O'Gornun by 50 Mer 24-13; S Bairle lost to M
lanner 14-71). CRICKET PRE-SEASON TOUR MATCH (Cape Rown, SA, pecoed day of chree): Lan-cashir 205 for 7 fee; (P McNeown 59) and 110 for 8, Western Province Academy 270 for 9 dec (R Lewis 66; D Shadford 4-62).

### FOOTBALL

FOOTBALL
GERMANY SOUAD (European Championship Group Three qualifiers v Northern treband, 27 March, Beifrest, and Finland, 31 March, Northern treband, 27 March, Beifrest, and Finland, 31 March, Northern). Lehmann (Borussia Dortmund). Defenderst Baibbel, Matrhais (both Bayern Munich). Nomotay (Bayern Munich). Nomotay (Bayern Leveriusen), Rohmur (Hansa Rostock), Mörns (Paris St-Germain). Midfielderst Bailack (Cajsersbutern), Beitilch (Bayer Leveriusen), Hamann (Newcastle United). Hehrich (Florentina). Jerusies (Bayern Munich). Midfier, Norfinger (both Borussia Dortmund). Rendew (Bayer Leveriusen). Reich (Kalsersbutern), Hidden (Borussia Dortmund). Forwards: Bierhoff (Milan). Bedie (Merder Bremen). Jancker (Bayern Munich). Kirsten (Bayer Leveriusen). Neoville (Hansa Rostock). Preekz (Hercha Berlin). Zielder (Bayern Munich). FERANCE SCHAD (Europaan Champi-

SPORTING DIGEST

Neuville (Harsa Rostock). Preezz (Hercha Berlin). Zickier (Bayern Munich). FRANCE SOULAD (European Championship Group Pour qualifiers v Ulbraine, 27 March, and Armenia, 3 1March, both at the Stade de Prasse); Goadsoperse Bartiez (Monaco), Porato (Olympique Marselle). Defenders: Blanc (Olympique Marselle). Defenders: Blanc (Olympique Marselle). Desally Leboen! (both Oreisca), Lizaraza (Bayern Munich). Thuram (Parma), Karembest (Red Madrid). Michelders: Boginessian (Parma), Deschamps, Zidane (both Juventus). Deschamps (Grondins Bordessty). SCOTLAND UNDER-21 SOLIAD (Enropean Under-21 championship qualifiers v Bossila and Cacch Republic; Alexander (Infreston), Anderson (Aberdeen). Bockam (Aberdeen). McEnvan (Raith). Nayambh (Hearts). Nicholson (Rangers), Highes (Bournerhouth), Mason (Manchester City). O'Bries (St. Mirrel). Strackam (Coventy), Young (Aberdeen). Barchill (Celtic), Daiglish (Newcastle). Dargo (Raith), Lauchim (Kimarnock), McCullock (Motherwell). Notama (Alanchester United), Teale (4yr).
NATIONWIDE FOOTEALL LEAGUE: Personned Matches 27 Mart Bolton.

ter United], Reale (Ayr).
NATIONWIDE FOOTBALL, LEAGUE:
Postponed Matches: 27 Mart Bolico
v Bristol City, 30 Mart Swarsea v Carrbridge Utd, 17 Aprt Bristol Rovers v Milwall, Re-arranged fixtures; 27 Aprt.
Macdesfield v Stoke; Bristol Rovers v Mil-

ICE HOCKEY NML: Pictsburgh 2 Tampa Bay 0; Washington 2 Dallas 1 (ot); Phoenox 4 Decroit 3; Boscon 4 Toronto 1; Chicago 3 Cajasa; New Jersey 4 Edmonton 1; Anahem 2 Ottawa 2 (ot); San Jose 4 Florida 2. 27 31 9 160 175 63

Tampa Bay \_\_16 46 5 142241 37

WESTERN CONTRENCE
CENTRAL DIVISION
W L 7 F APIS
DETOIL \_\_33 29 6 199 174 72

St Lodis \_\_29 28 10 193 178 68
Nashwile \_\_24 38 6 163 221 54
Chicago \_\_20 39 9 155 211 49

NORTHWEST DIVISION
Colorado \_\_34 25 8 186 167 76
Calgary \_\_26 32 10 183 193 62
Calgary \_\_26 33 10 188 188 60
Vancourser \_\_20 37 11 163 209 57

### 

WEDNESDAY'S LATE RESULTS: Northern Ford Premiership: Feather-stone 28 Widnes 12; Hull Kingston Rovers 8 Oldham 8; Whitehaven 24 Lan-

RUGBY UNION Stormers, of South Africa, were yes terday cleared of breaching Super 12 tournament rules for fielding a accord-string team in last weekend's accord-string team in last weekend's 46-14 thrashing against Otago. The South Afrikans were warned by the competition's controlling body. SAN-ZAR, that teams still have a duty to select their best sides to protect the MEDALESDAY'S LATE RESULTS: Anglo-tillath Priendity Gloucester 25 Cardin 30. Chob Raceless: Richmond XV 41 Royal Nary 17; Combined London OB 22 Surrey 31.

TENNIS
GEROBANK TOUR (Swamses) Mea's stragles, second round: J Davison (Sussex) bit K Thomas (S Wah) 6-4 6-4; F Hearn (Midde) bit E Webley-Smith (Aron) 6-2 6-4; N Woodhouse (Norfolk) bit H Parker (Berkshire) 1-6 7-5 6-0; N Ayron (Somerser) bit F Barnett (Misshire) 6-4 4-6 7-6; C Coombs (Kent) bit C Uddis (Nigeria) 6-3 6-2; L Herbert (Mershire) bit L Coffman (Davardshire) 5-7 6-3 6-2; C Saverstone (Surrey) bit L Nagustband (Essex) 6-0 6-2; K ElBort (Herts) bit R Hutchire (Surrey) 7-5 6-2; N Gould (Joon) bit B Gudzelak (Yorks) 7-6 6-2; R Hanger (Dorset) b J Austin (Dorset) 6-1 6-4; I Bartes (Hants) b J Austin (Dorset) 6-1 6-4. B Futcher (Norfold) b E Wood (Herts) 6-3 6-4; J Fox (Lincs) b J Taylor (Glous) 6-2 6-4; P Hand (Eerts) 6-3 7-6; T Greenland (Dorn) b N Watts (Wits) 6-3 6-7; C Bernett (Hereford & Wiorts) bit M Ellames (Essex) 6-3 6-7 6-4.

HARP LAGER NATIONAL LEAGUE OF IRELAND Premier Dission: Shelbourne v Sigo (7.45): Waterford v Shamrock Rovers (7.45. RUGBY LEAGUE

US SPORTS SUPER LEAGUE: Letd Wigen (7.30).

traject v rance (1.50)
(or Revision)
(or Revision)
(or Revision)
Scotland v Ireland (7.0)
UNIDER-21 INTERNATIONALS: England v France (7.30) (or Worcester); Italy v Wales (2.0) (or Wolfer): Scotland v france (6.30) (or Bridgehaugh, Scring).

BASKETBALL BUDWEISER LEAGUE: Milton Keynes Lions v Leicester Riders (7.30); Sheffield Sharks v Manchester Glants (7.45).

Mortgages

the world No 1.

Fixed until 2004



If you want a mortgage that helps you plan for the future, call NatWest right away. We can give you a quote in five minutes ond o provisional decision just ten minutes later.





You'll find us on the Internet on: www.natwest.co.uk

NatWest More than just a bank

tour home is at risk if you do not keep up repayments on a mortgage or other loan secured on it

YOUR HOME IS AT RISK IT YOU DO NOT KEEP UP REPAYMENTS ON A MORTGAGE OR OTHER LOAN SECURED ON IT.

Telephone lines are operated by National Westwarter Home Loans United. Calls may be wontraved for training purposes. Credit is available to persons aged 18 or over and is subject to states and coverfibrors. Martings from a conditional training purposes. Credit is available from Resident Westwarter Bank FC, 41 Lothbury, London EC2P 289. Tigsted countries this typical example assumes a Fixed Rate of 5.69%, 5.9% APR, on an interest-only mortage of £64,000 sequence over 1500.00 and property existed length example of £65,784.05 purposes, locksforing 185,000 subjects on a property existed expected countries to most property existed expected existed property of the subject of the same Fixed Rate for the fall time of the martingage. In fact, this fixed rate is only fixed and 31 May 2004. There will be a change of the same Fixed Rate for the fall time of the martingage. In fact, this fixed rate is only fixed until 31 May 2004. There will be a change of the same Fixed Rate for the fall time of the martingage. In fact, this fixed rate is only fixed until 31 May 2004. There will be a change which is contracted on the fall time of the martingage, in fact, this fixed rate is only fixed until 31 May 2004. There will be a change which is varied to the same fixed the time of early independent, there will be a change which is varied and depends on the fall of the same fixed the fall of the same fixed the same separate of the same fixed the fall of the same part of upon the fall of the same fixed the fall of the same fixed the same separate only the Markhatte and Community Markhat

care value) £12,623.00. APR 8.4%, Further charges may be mad PORT E ENTRE COST. 33.75. Total charge for credit £9,435.95 (includes a finance facility fee of £70, payable with the first mileggelcondition if the vehicle is returned at the end of the finance agreement. Wit



CASTAIGNEDE IS KICKING HIMSELF P22 MANDELA TEMPTS LEWIS P25



### Keegan gives Sutton his chance



prise when he unveiled his first England squad yesterday: ha named a balanced party with nine defenders and only

One of those was Chris Sutton, whose inclusion, after just one match back for Blackburn, was perhaps the biggest shock. have expected his first call-up. He is one of two uncapped players in the 24-man selection for tomorrow week's European Championship qualifier with Poland at Wembley, the other being Ray Parlour.

In all there are six changes from the last squad, picked by Glenn Hoddle and named by Howard Wilkinson, which faced France last month. Phil Neville, David Batty and Steve McMa-

KEVIN KEEGAN sprang a sur- BY GLENN MOORE Football Correspondent

Dioo Dublin, Paul Merson, Nicky Butt, Paul Ince, Kieron Dyer and Richard Wright drop out. Ince is suspended, Dyer injured, Butt has not recovered his place since injury while Dublin and Merson have not rethough Tim Sherwood could not gained form. Wright reverts to the Under-21s as Keegan has onted for two goalkeepers with Ian Walker on standby.

Few would argue with the broad make-up of the squad. As Keegan said: "There are only around 50 potential England players, some of those are too old or have had a chance, some are on the verge of playing but not ready, some are not involved with their clubs for various reasons - like Rob Lee, some are suspended and some are injured. It

comes down to about 32 players Liverpool's match at Derby last week. Fourteen of the 22 of which I've chosen 24." A fair point, but there are inplayers and all 10 substitutes were foreign. McManaman, the

consistencies, McManaman, for example, is even less involved with Liverpool than Lee is at ted. The only beneficiary ap-Newcastle, yet he was chosen. This may have something to do with the dearth of players able to play on the left flank, but it is also because Keegan, because of his Fulham commitments, is having to back hunches.

McManaman was still chosen, perhaps because Keegan can empathise with the prob-He admitted he had only been able to watch one Prelems created by his decision to join Real Madrid in the summer. he was omitted from a match miership match in the flesh,

Leeds, for experience.

reason for the visit, was omit-

pears to be the promising

Steven Gerrard, of Liverpool,

who will join the squad, along

with Jonathon Woodgate, of

"I know how he feels. I have been through the same situation myself, [when he was leaving Liverpool for Hamburg in 1977). It's not for me to get involved with the politics but if he played he might feel he has something to prove. He's not a player who needs a lot of training to be fit, and I would have no qualms about his fitness if he was selected to play." The same applied, he said, to Batty.

Fitness, he conceded, "is a slight worry" where Sutton was concerned but the Blackburn striker is unlikely to start the match. Keegan admitted his reaction when Sutton rejected the chance to play for the B team last spring was "Why?" but he added: "Everybody deserves a second chance. I walked out on Don Revie [after

criticise too much. Sometimes you do things under pressure which you can't understand yourself. Maybe he'll tell me why when we meet up."

Sutton will not he the only

player doing some explaining. The FA has not yet had a chance to conduct the hearing into Graeme Le Saux and Robbie Fowler's spat at Stamford Bridge so Keegan intends to shut them in a room with him when the squad meets on Sunday night "and have 15 minutes with them repairing the damage. This is not the FA's idea, it is mine. They are part of an England squad together and the last thing we need is friction

between players." Of the new players, Keegan, who conducted an impeccable press conference, said: "Sher-

against Wales in 1975] so I can't wood gives me options, he's playing as well as he's ever played and is unlucky not to be capped before. Parlour, I would have taken him to the World Cup. I don't know what else he had to do, he was and is playing with some outstanding players and some weeks is the best on the park."

Paul Gascoigne, on the other hand, "has not had the chance to prove his fitness," said Keegan, adding: "The door is still open to him - he can win games." Dublin, Merson and Les Ferdinand also received a

mention in dispatches. Keegan added: "We need to win all three of the European Championship games [under his caretaker reign]. That's not brayado, you just have to look at the table to know that. But we are capable of doing it."

### Reed reports Ginola over celebration

DAVID GINOLA may have lit up Maybe Mr Reed wished be had the FA Cup on Tuesday with his superb winner for Tottenham at Barnsley, but the referee Mike Reed was unimpressed by his subsequent display of chestbaring (or vest-baring, in fact). and has reported him to the Football Association for "overelaborate goal celebrations".

The Frenchman reacted to his strike - a contender for goal of the season - by running to the Spurs fans, taking his shirt off and throwing it to the crowd.

The controversial Reed said: "This sort of thing can be danforward. The police have constantly told us to keep the players oo the pitch when they are celebrating goals. I realise it was a brilliant goal but we are under instructions to report anything we feel is over the top."

rector of football, was unimpressed. "Maybe Mr Reed should have noted that David was celebrating in front of his own fans. He didn't drop his shorts, he didn't show his backside, the shirt was thrown back like myself up front - that would to him and the game restarted at the time it should have done.

scored the goal."

Despite the unfavourable report, Ginola is unlikely to he punished. FA sources yesterday indicated that the worst he can expect is a letter reminding him of the potential hazards of overenthusiastic revelry.

Well used to producing the unexpected on the pitch, Ginola did much the same off it yesterday when he said he will model himself on George Graham if he becomes a manager.

"If I became a manager then I would follow George Gragerous if people start to surge ham's philosophy of football," he said. "The best managers in the world know that the idea [of football] is to build the team from the defence. I remember when I played in Paris for PSG that we got a lot of criticism because we didn't score many s. But at the end of the

soo we won the title. "If you keep a clean sheet then there is always the possibility of you scoring one goal and winning. So I would build from the back and have players be very nice.

THE FRIDAY CROSSWORD

# More football, pages 27, 26 Mick Fitzgerald aboard See More Business (left) jump the last fence alongside Tony Dobbin on Go Ballistic in yesterday's Gold Cup at Cheltenham

### No. 3874 Friday 19 March out into that spray (7)

- ACROSS lts delivery marks an earlier delivery (8,4) Intend to block up
- opening in clothing (7) is tightly bound (5-4)

  10 Doctor very involved in 28 Appear more profitable genuine amputation? (7) bad behaviour? The other way round (4.5)
- veto, according to report (4)
  16 A useful purchase for the mountaineer? (7) 17 A ship after
- 18 With cleverness and cunning capturing the market (7)

unloading? (7)

21 Quaking, one's surrounded by half a hundred (7)

Ð

- 23 Feature one omitted
- from series (4) 24 & 25 About to mislay equipment in which note 8
- round) (7) There's a row about empty easel in studio (7) Newspapers in Scotland going to suggest conscription of a sort? (5-7)

than betraval (switching

- DOWN With flair, cook cut soft Type of knot working
- free (4) Rash person had to strangle someone else, 4 See water rising - run

- - 5 & 15 Do repeat your visit, what? (4,5) A trickle in nasty vile rut (7)
  - Junior ranks having oo state funding? (7,6) What suggests extremes of thunder in Met O circles, possibly (8,5)
  - & 26 Exotic regions -potentially representing pases thus? (5.4) See 5 down One in a barrel or one in Chunk of tree has most of
  - your l-leg in ribbons (4-3) Maintain America should be swathed in shame (7) 22 A tiny amount of

digging in excavation is worrying (7) See 14 down 27 House is surrounding me on rising (4)

### **Business** usurps the pretenders

immediately eradicated. "It was like riding s completely differ-ent horse," Mick Fitzgerald,

This was a newly polished

nges yesterday as Senor

skill that stood the nine-year-old

in good stead in the opening ex-

El Betrutti and Dorans Pride

blasted away from the front.

ly significant one. Teeton Mill.

the grey who has swept through

all ranks this season, slipped a

The first victim was a huge-

the jockey, reported.

WE DID not get the result ex-pected in the Cheltenham Gold By RICHARD EDMONDSON Cup yesterday. We got justice inat Cheltenham

Florida Pearl, Teeton Mill and Double Thriller, the supposed new monarchs of steeplechasing, were scorched in National Hunt's fiercest of arenas. Victory went instead to a horse who has already been burned in this contest and it was a result that showed there are betting shops in the heavens.

See More Business was secood favourite for the Blue Riband when he was oushed off the track by another horse 12 months ago. Vindication does not usually come as true as this. "You're never owed anything

in this game, but winning this certainly makes up for everything," Paul Nicholls, the winning trainer, said. "We've cracked it." While See More Business was outstanding in the athletic

battle, he was not omnipotent in the catwalk of the parade ring. The languid Florida Pearl, Escartefigue and the frightening dimensions of Double Thriller stood out. If these three had been strapped to a rival chariot then Ben Hur would have finished runner-up in the coliseum.

Go Ballistic and See More Business were dwarfed and the loose, black material around the latter's face looked like something you might see flapping on grandma's washing line. Blinkers, though, have been the making of See More Business. Just two weeks ago he began

schooling in the headgear and

the impact was staggering. Pre-

tendon off a hock and was pulled GOLD CUP 1 SEE MORE BUSIN M A Fitzgerald 16-1

GO BALLISTIC A Dobbin 66-1 FLORIDA PEARL R Dunwoody 5-2 fav

up before the ninth fence. He is unlikely to race again. The pounding tempo contin-

ued with Double Thriller as the conductor. See More Business scooted along pleasingly, close to the pace, while the most ominous of shadows belonged to Florida Pearl. At the high point of the course he looked the winner. "Richard [Dunwoody] said the horse came alive at the top of the hill, but then he used what he had in the tank to get to the other two," Willie Mullins, the trainer, said. By now, the other two comprised See More Business and Go Ballistic, 16-1 and 66-1 shots spoiling the dreams of punters and purists. The ne-

cided it. 'I needed a long one at the last and I thought to myself: You're either coming up or going down, it's one or the other," Fitzgerald said. "He got it right." At the line, a length was the division.

It was a day of three victories for Fitzgeraid, three sports of the high pleasure a Festival winner injects. "If anybody had seen me driving home after the County Hurdle two years ago, when I chose the wrong horse and Barna Boywon, they would know what the Festival does for me," he said. "I broke every speed record there was that night. I was not a happy man. I was in such a temper that I had to take my wedding ring off as it was cutting into my finger. That's what Cheltenham means to me. And when I got beaten on Rough Quest in the 1996 Gold Cup [behind Imperial Call) I was gutted. I wanted to feel what Conor O'Dwyer felt. But I felt it today and it's something that won't go away for a long, long time."

Paul Nicholls, too, has had bad days in the Cotswolds and his victories at this year's meeting have been long overdue: "I supposed I did begin to wonder if I would ever have a winner here. But that's behind me."

And Paul Barber, joint owner of See More Business, will now have to set different goals. It is his ambitioo to establish a 1,000-strong dairy herd in the West country and win a Cheltenham Gold Cup. Milking cows and milking applause, he's now



Of Published by Independent New quipers (UK) Limited, I Canada Square, Canary Whart, Lundon E14 5DL, and printed at Murror okur Print. St. Album Road. Watford one Hollinson d. An nuc. Oldham. Bach jouen available from Historic Newspapers, 11988 840370

### RIDAY REVIEW

COMMENT • FEATURES • ARTS • LISTINGS • TELEVISION



A spate of savage killings has shocked Jamaica. The 29 victims are all elderly, returning from Britain and America to the rural idylls they remember from their childhoods. But times have changed and they're not welcome anymore...

# Paradise

bey found Alfred Morris lying dead in a pool of blood on the lawn of his mansion. The fingers of bis left band were defiantly clasped around the keys to his English-made Ford Sierra. The one-time Birmingham shopkeeper had been beaten around the head with a blunt instrument and stabbed three times in the stomach. Pathologists who examined his body believe be clung to life for some time after his attackers had abandoned the scene. But there was no one to hear his cries for help.

Mr Morris, who died last October at the age of 70, became one of the many victims of ruthless gangs preying on the elderly "foreigners" who retire to Jamaica anticipating that their savings will allow them to live their last years in grand style in the warmth of the Caribbean sun. Instead they have provided easy pickings for bandits stalking the Jamaican countryside.

Although he never felt completely at home in the industrialised West Midlands, Mr Morris was well-known and highly popular among Caribbean immigrants of his own generation, many of whom he had sheltered when they first arrived in the area from the West Indies. He had moved to Britain at the age of 21 and,

after giving up a labouring job in a cable facto-

FAST TRACK TO THE URO MARKET

Ty, he drew on his Caribbean upbringing to set up in business selling yams, green bananas and dasheens from the back of his motorcycle. He progressed to a mobile shop before setting up a Caribbean food store that was to become a focal point for his community but was equally popur with Asian customers in the inner-city Birm-Ingham district of Balsall Heath. Though he was an astute and successful businessman, Mr Morris won the gratitude of his poorer clientele by his willingness to offer food "on the knock". When he arrived back in Jamaica, he set up home in the coastal district of St Ann's, near the white sandy beaches where Christopher Columbus came on shore when he arrived on the island in 1494. But the quiet seaside village that he had known as a boy had changed dramati-

people from far and wide, anxious to make money from the new tourist trade. The friends and relatives whom Mr Morris had known as a child were now long gone, and the

cally Now St Ann's was a bustling town that drew

built his dream home on the edge of the lush Jamaican interior he cultivated vegetables and tried to recreate the relationships be had enjoyed in Birmingham by giving produce to local families.

A week before Mr Morris's murder, the decomposed body of Vincent "Pie" Palmer was discovered on his farm in the rural parish of St Thomas. Mr Palmer, 68, who had recently returned to Jamaica from London, was shot once in his abdomen and three times in the back. His killers have not been traced. Then on 4 January, Nigel Johnson, a Londoner who was staying with relatives in the parish of St Catherine, was shot dead by gunmen who burst into the house shortly after two o'clock in the morning. The 36-year-old, the youngest "returnee" to die, was robbed of £700 in cash and jewellery. Again, the killers have not been caught. Mr Johnson was the ninth returnee to die since the beginning

In November, a 58-year-old man from Tottenham, north London, who had set up a business in the central Jamaican town of May Pen, Clarendon, was chopped to death with machetes

environment was much more bostile. While he a life for themselves in England and the Americas have been brutally murdered on retiring here. At the beginning of this year the senate, Jamaica's upper house of parliament, passed a resolution calling on the government to provide better advice to returnees on investment opportunities and personal security.

Most of the victims have been British or American. In almost all cases they had been born in Jamaica and were realising dreams of return-ing home to what they nostalgically remembered as an island paradise of rural peace and clear blue skies. But the village life that they had abandoned 40 years or more ago has changed beyond

By choosing to return to the villages of their childhood they eschew the high security and armed guards which patrol the homes of the Jamaican élite in uptown Kingston. And with few friends and relatives in an environment which they left two generations earlier, they are isolated and vulnerable.

Many of the 40,000 people who have returned to Jamaica over the past five years are pensioners who still receive benefits from

Some returnees give themselves away. They are

making themselves enticing to criminals. Luke Douglas, the municipal reporter on the Jamaican Gleaner newspaper, says returnees would be best advised to move into affluent areas where they can get better protection, rather than live in the rural communities where they originally came from. "The fact that you are a returnee means that you would not know many people, so there are no gunmen or police to protect you and the criminals see you as an easy target. It is very sad," he says.

Such advice comes too late for Alfred Morris, and back in Birmingham his relatives are left to grieve for the gentle man they knew as "Sabboo". His former wife, Dorothy Morris, 56, says: "Sabboo has never done anything to anyone. He was actively involved with the community. When he returned from the fields, be used to call the kids and give them food. How can they kill the goose that laid the golden egg?"

She recalled a man who came to Britain in 1950 with a sense of hope and adventure, setting up a shop in Birmingham which sold Caribbean produce to a clientele which came from as far afield as Cardiff and Manchester. So successful was he that he amassed sufficient savings to buy a piece of land in Jamaica, close to the sandy beaches of St Ann's where he used to play as a child. He built a seven-bedroom English-style house that was to prove his undoing.

To his brother, Caral, his death was a shock but hardly a surprise. Caral, 68, had himself retired to Jamaica only to return to England four years ago after a frightening attack that nearly cost the life of his young son. While he was out, three gunmen burst into his house in the coastal town of Ocho Rios, tied up his half-naked wife and threw his then two-year-old son Charick, now six, against a wall to stop him crying. The boy's skull was split, leaving him with head injuries from which he has still not recovered.

"As smart as my brother was," says Caral, "he underestimated the Jamaica he left behind. The ggression that we face out there is unbelievable. They are more likely to kill you if you are a returnee than if you are a local. If they go to rob a bank, they will only kill if it is neces but with us they don't care. They could have robbed my brother and not killed him. In Jamaica

WHO WOULD pay twice as much TO CALL A MOBILE PHONE?



service to your existing BT phone. So Join our 0800 458 0004

FIRST TELECOM

### BY KENNETH TAYLOR

after intruders broke into his house in nearby Mandeville. His killers, too, are still at large.

Two days before Christmas, a minibus ferrying six returnees from the United States between Norman Manley Airport in Kingston and their hotel was hijacked by 10 men carrying high-pow-ered rifles. They were subjected to a terrifying ordeal before being robbed of about £10,000.

Meanwhile, relatives of Robert "Scottie" Graham and his sister Icylyn, two Londoners who went missing on 27 November 1997, have put up more than £15,000 as a reward for information of their whereabouts. The couple, who were living in the capital, Kingston, have not been seen since they went to meet a prospective buyer for a van they had advertised for sale. The vehicle was found abandoned in sugar-cane fields near the Caymanas Park racecourse, and the

Grahams are feared to be dead. It is a disturbing pattern that is causing great concern to the Jamaican authorities. In the past six years, 29 people who left Jamaica to make

England and contribute about £15m to the island's economy each year. Most are from the group of people who came to England in the Fifties and Sixties, on board or following the SS Empire Windrush, to work mainly on the buses, in hospitals and in factories. Others are returning from Canada and the US. Of the 29 returnee murders in Jamaica over the past six years, nine have been committed since the beginning of last year.

Percy LaTouche, founder of the Association for the Resettlement of Returning Residents. strongly believes that returnees are being targeted. A returnee himself, who used to live in Birmingham, he says: "I don't know if it is because they have big houses or they talk too much about what they have, but they are definitely being singled out.

"I am not saying people can't have big houses and expensive cars, but when you have these things people get jealous, especially in a place like Jamaica, which has high levels of poverty.

they don't need any excuse to take your life." Listings Leaders and comment 3-5 Arts\_\_\_ Radio Pop Obituaries Satellite TV Today's TV Features\_

23.75. Total charge for credit 52,435.25 (includes a finance facility fee of £70, payable with the first

#### **EU** under scrutiny

Sir: Much of the reporting of the European Commission's resignation has misinterpreted the role commissioners are supposed to play. According to the "founding fathers" of the 1950s. commissioners were never meant to be ministers or departmental

heads, in a system of "line management". Commissioners are members of a "college" and are collectively responsible, rather than individually so. It is appropriate, therefore, that they resigned en bloc.

What we have here is a clash between two organisational cultures: the model of the 1950s confronting the new demands of the 1990s. Tony Blair is right to demand a root-and-branch reform of the Commission, but his fivepoint plan does not go far enough. Steve Richards is correct (Comment, 17 March) to argue that the momentum is with farreaching reform.

It is not simply a matter of imposing new financial systems on the Commission: the entire model has to be changed. This means reform of the Commission's organisational structures, its staffing and promotions policies. and the process whereby its heads are selected. Out with the institutional philosophy of Jean Monnet and in with new management values and practices. Professor KEVIN FEATHERSTONE Department of European Studies University of Bradford

Sir. As long as the European Commission struggles with ita dual function of executive and administration, as long as the European Parliament has restricted control over it, and as long as the appointments of its President and commissioners are the subject of horse trading between member-state governments, the prospect of malpractices will remain, and the EU will lack credibility in the eyes of the citizens it serves.

If, however, the Commission were to be selected by the Parliament - the only body with a democratic mandate at EU level the lines of accountability would be strengthened and the commissioners answerable, through the Parliament, to us, the

citizens of the EU. The Parliament's bombshell may, in fact, have been the best thing that could happen to the Commission. Setting in motion the democratisation of the EU, along with other reforms, should finally persuade people that the EU is relevant to ordinary citizens ROSALIND GILL Oxford

Sir: The European Commission official who hlew the whistle oo cronvism and fraud in Brussels says, "I have been very lonely and I still am not certain about what is going to happen to me"

"Ignominious way for them to be sacked", 17 March). Now that his concerns have been fully vindicated, is there any good reason why he should remain suspended?

As Mr van Buitenen himself has said, if the UK's Public Interest Disclosure Act - which is due to come into force here this May - had applied to him, he would have been fully protected against victimisation. More importantly, the law would have helped ensure that the Commission dealt with his concerns properly in the first place.

If the new Commission is to signal a break with the past, it must reinstate Mr van Buitenen and introduce whistleblower protection for those countless nfficials less hrave than him. GUY DEHN

Public Concern at Work Loudon EC1

Sir: At the press conference on 16 March, Jacques Santer said: "Je constate avec beaucoup de satisfaction que je suis entierement blanchi." This means that he considered that he had been "completely cleared" by the report, and not that he considered

### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Post letters to Letters to the Editor, The Independent, I Canada Square, London E14 5DL and include a daytime telephone number, fax to 0171 293 2056 or e-mail to letters@independent.co.uk. E-mail correspondents are asked to give a postal address. Letters may be edited for length and clarity



Cuba No 5: Young schoolchildren at Trinidad de la Cuba

Michael MacSweeney

#### himself to be "whiter than white". Mr Santer's reaction to the report might be considered illudged. However, the expression whiter than white", seized upon for its newsworthiness by The Independent, BBC TV news and Channel 4 news among others, served to portray him in an

exaggeratedly negative light. Dr CHRIS DAWSON Lecturer in French Manchester Metropolitan University

Sir: The resignation of the EU Commissioners and the complaint earlier in the week, by a hutcher that after 20 years he would have to give up his husiness because of unnecessary and expensive alterations he would have to carry out at the behest of the EU would seem to have only a tenuous connection.I think otherwise.

If we have incompetence, dishonesty and nepotism at the top of the pyramid you can be sure that there exists further down a hureaucracy intent on empire huilding and endeavouring to justify its position by the issuing of fatuous regulations. We now have a heaven-sent opportunity to purge this bloated organisation. **PBRYAN** St Helier. Jersey

Sir: I find the current débacle engulfing the European Commission ironic in the extreme. Over the past five years I have carried out advisory work for agencies of the European Union and their procedures to stop me defrauding them were ludicrous in their extent.

For example, in order to claim back the cost of an air fare I had to produce a receipted invoice, the ticket counterfoil and the various boarding cards. Without any of these I would not have been reimbursed. Perhaps they should apply some of these provisions to the commissioners, who appear to need them more than 1 do. JOHN CHARMAN London SW1

#### Protecting children

Sir: In mid-November I witnessed a neighbour punching his eight yearold stepson in the street ("I'm sorry but your children are not your own private property", 16 March).

I remonstrated with him and later phoned the NSPCC child helpline.

Four weeks later I was telephoned by the social services and asked to make a formal statement and act as a witness in any future prosecution. I was asked to contact the child protection unit of the police and was interviewed by a police officer.

Some weeks later I rang the police to ask if I would be needed as a witness, to be told that, because of the delay between my reporting the assault and the police's involvement, they would not be able to pursue the case as there would be no physical evidence.

The case was returned to social services and shortly after they visited the family.

Within days of the visit, the tyres on my car were slashed. A month later they were slashed again, and last week my car was vandalised.

I am not suggesting that social services leaked my name hut rather the family made the connection between their visit and

Sir: What does one call a child

Millennia, Miles. Millie? Given

concept, and the possibilities

for coining a new name, I think

born on the millennium?

the current interest in the

it should be discussed.

Sir: The term "political

correctness" is in danger of

losing its original meaning.

Simon Allen (letter, 17 March)

the past as "driven by what we

now call potitical correctness

correctness but almost its

describes church attendance in

What he refers to is not political

M SAUNDERS

Shalford, Surrey

my having challenged the father. Other neighbours who have witnessed the children being assaulted are now even less likely

to come forward to give evidence. Having suffered hundreds of pounds worth of damage to my property I hope that, if faced with a similar situation, I would act in the same way - but I do know that I would think twice about it. NAME AND ADDRESS SUPPLIED

Sir: The NSPCC knows from dealing with people who come for help - and our own experience as parents - that the world is not divided into good and bad people ("Who cares about children?", 17 March).

The Fullstop campaign is not about the good driving out the bad. It is about awareness and self awareness; enabling action; creating an infrastructure and services for people concerned about cruelty to children, providing help and support which they can trust.

Above all, it is about changing attitudes so that cruelty to children becomes absolutely intolerable.

Because the world is not divided into good and bad we know that there are no simple solutions and this will not be easy. But we are

IN BRIEF

opposite, social conformism.

correctness is to recognise the

right of individuals and groups

refraining from offensive labels

One of the goals of political

not to conform to socially

repressive norms, and to

for minority groups.

Religious Studies

Dr GRAHAM GOULD

King's College London

Sir: Jonathan Keate's

express this recognition by

Department of Theology and

otherwise excellent article

determined to create the will in this country, together, to try. PHILLIP NOYES Director of Public Policy

London EC2

#### Silk scroll's journey

Sir. You refer ("Museum is charging hidden fees", 11 March) to a 14th-century Chinese scroll painting on silk at the British Museum.

Since this painting was acquired through the generosity of the National Art-Collections Fund, after the Heritage Lottery Fund turned down an application, your readers may be interested to learn why this work is of outstanding national interest.

As the one who first recognised, dated, identified and published the painting (with a full-size facsimile reproduction), and who urged its acquisition by the British Museum, I am most grateful to the National

Art-Collections Fund. It is a little more than 20 years since the scroll was brought to me for opinion by its owner, the late Philip Robinson. Not only did its style, litle, calligraphy and other inscriptions tally perfectly with the signature and date, 1321, of an otherwise unknown master, the

mounting bore the signature of its

Handel's vocal works (Arts. 16

March) failed to mention the

outstanding contribution of

Charles Farncombe, founder

and musical director of the

Handel Opera Society from

performances of all the

1955 to 1985. Charles condocted

and inspired prodoctions and

oratorios, and 30 of the operas

mainly at Sadler's Wells, and in

many other veoces, both here

and in Europe. His pioneering

work undonbtedly laid solid

foundations for today's huge

revival of interest.

DORIS GITTINS

London SE3

extolling the glories of

first English owner, W Butler, and the date. 1797. Two centuries ago, this was almost certainly the very first Chinese painting of note and distinction to come to this country.

#### There is no clue as to how the scroll came to this country, but a section of the published

reproduction is exhibited in the Palace Museum in the Forbidden City, Beijing, with the suggestion that it could have been given to Lord Macartney, whose embassy to the Chinese Emperor journeyed to Peking in 1792 to 1793.

The subject is well matched to the vicissitudes of its history: a single toad, a lizard and all kinds of insects prey on each other amid plants and flowers of stunning beauty, in veiled reference to the political disorder of the time. Paintings of this calibre are

rare even in China, and of this particular style almost non-existent RODERICK WHITFIELD Percival David Professor of Chinese Art School of Oriental and African Studies

#### University of London Female roles

Sir: To describe the term "actress" as "time-honoured" (letter, 17 March) seems odd.

There was certainly nothing honourable about the term at the end of the 17th century. Women had only recently won the legal right to appear on the stage, and the male actors previously specialising in female roles who were thus put out of work soon saw to it that the word "actress" should become synonymous with whore, amoral female, rapacious seductress; a tradition continued by some sections of the press to include bimbo, striptease artist and show-girl.

If female actors disdain a word which implies that their job description includes such services it does not seem at all bizarre to me but, rather, long over-due. MOLLY BARRELL Ilminster. Somerset

#### Ulster guns must go Sir. As a solicitor from Northern

Ireland now working in London, I view the murder of Rosemary Nelson with the utmost revulsion.

Mrs Nelson, like many solicitors in the province, defended clients from both communities. Her crime in the eyes of her murderers was to promote her own democratic and law-abiding brand of Irish nationalism through her work.

Unlike Frank Murphy detter, 17 March) I draw the conclusion that Mrs Nelson's death should only emphasise the need for a speedy beginning to the decommissioning of paramilitary weapons. Only when the gun is removed from Ulster's political arena can individuals like Mrs Nelson promote their cause safe in the knowledge that their views will be regarded as part and parcel of life in a democracy.

Mr Murphy finds it "daft" that decommissioning should stop elected politicians taking part in the new Northern Ireland executive. Yet if democracy is to truly work, illegally held weapons must be removed. It is common knowledge within Unionist circles that even a token hand-over of weapons by Sinn Fein/IRA will allow First Minister Trimble to admit Messrs Adams and McGuinness into the Executive.
PAUL G W ROBINSON London SW15

#### Walking to school

Sir: John R E Bell is right to stress the risk that "parental choice" in education will lead to longer school journeys and hence reduce children's ability to walk or cycle to school (letter, 18 March). But this problem should not be overstated.

From the mid-1970s, the average distance travelled to school by fiveto 10-year-olds rose from Lto 1.2 miles. The average school journey of 11-to 15-year-olds rose from 2.5 to

2.8 miles over the same period. These trends are worrying hut not disastrous. To increase walking and cycling to school, we need to tackle parental concerns over speeding traffic and

"stranger danger". We also need proper "joined-up thinking" in government to prevent education policy undermining attempts to promote sustainable school travel. Otherwise the ninemile school journeys confronted by Mr Bell in Bishops Stortford could become the norm, not the exception. BEN PLOWDEN Director

The Pedestrians Association London SW8

#### **Frozen' buildings-**

Sir: James Fisher's article "What's the storey?" (Review, 15 March) leaves us with a concern that we are in danger of adopting a rather inflexible approach to modern building.

The essence of a "sustainable" Modern design should be that it has a robustness rendering it capable of a degree of adaptation, whilst maintaining its essential integrity. Yet the suggestion seems to be made that buildings such as Isokon and Keeling House must be preserved in their exactly original form, or they will be of no value.

I am sure it is possible to accept a degree of careful adaptation which brings them back into beneficial use. One of the worst things that you can do to a building is to leave it empty, let alone neglected.

If we are to list Modern buildings, then let us interpret that listing in a manner which allows them to adapt and evolve, at reasonable cost, treating them as places to live rather than as museums. MICHAEL GWILLIAM Director, Civic Trust London SW1

#### **Bloodless massacre**

Sir: You report that The Texas Chainsow Massacre has been passed for viewing with no cuts (report, 17 March). Won't he worth watching, will it? RICHARD WELSH Denbigh, Clwyd

### Thou wast not born for death, immortal bird!

"I WAS woken by the birds this There was one hird who sounded morning," said the man at the bar. Five n'clock. Bloody racket. Why can't they get up at a proper hour?"

"They do," said the woman with the red hairdo, who used to drink nrange juice when she had orange hair out has switched in red wine to match her new hair colour. "They get up with the sun, same as the rest of us should. In the old days everyone followed the natural pattern of days. Now only the birds do."

"At least they don't sing when they go to bed," said the man with the dog. "Can you imagine what a dusk chorus would be like?"

"Bloody racket." said the man at the bar again. "I lay there listening to them and wondered why anyone ever described the noise as singing. Nothing much musical about it.

like a mobile phone. In fact, it sounded so much like a mobile phone I got up to make sure it wasn't mine."

"And was it?" "Of course it wasn't, as I would have known if I hadn't been half asleep. You don't get mobile phones 20 feet up a tree, looking

for mates.

"It might have been a starling," said the resident Welshman. They're very good at imitating things. Maybe it's been living close to a mobile phone and liked the sound of it."

"There's no reason why it should he imitating anything," said the man with the dog. "Maybe it just sounds like a mobile phone naturally. Maybe this hird, whatever it is, has always sounded like

that, way before mobile phones were invented."

"Are you saying." I said." that mobile phones imitate starlings?" "No," said the man with the dog.

"You might equally well say that a hird imitates a plane when it's flying. But it's quite possible that a hird might sound accidentally like a mobile phone." "If that's true," said the man at

the bar, "then nobody would have realised it before now. I mean, say all through the 1950s this hird was singing its heart out like a mobile phone - well, nobody would realise what it sounded like because mobile phones hadn't been invented, and there would be no record of it because nobody would describe it in those terms. Amazing thought." "There might be a bird out there

KINGTON

'One bird sounded so much like a mobile phone I got up to make sure it wasn't mine'

right now which sounds like something that hasn't even been invented yet," said the red lady.

"Such as?" said him at the bar: "How should I know?" she said. "It hasn't been invented yet." Whatever it is, I bet it's that bloody hird which does one single

high repeated note over and over again," said the man at the bar. "That drives me wild." "That's already been invented," she said. "It's called the sound of

a lorry reversing, telling you to get

out of the way." "That would be tragic," said the lugubrious man who never spoke unless he had a macabre thought. "It would be tragic if you heard the hird, and thought it was a lorry, then jumped out of the way and got run over by a real lorry

going forward." "I wonder if people do any market research when they invent new noises?" said the man at the

bar, ignoring him. "I mean, when they have to devise a noise for a computer or a machine, are they careful to make sure it doesn't sound like the call of some wellknown bird?"

Would it matter if it did?" "It might do," said the lugubrious man again. "Imagine if there was a bird which sounded like the noise made by pedestrian crossings to tell blind people it'a all right to cross.

"What would happen?" "They'd hear the bird, think it was all right to cross, step out into the road and get run over."

The lugubrious man smiled. It was, by his lights, a really cheerful thought.

"Of course," said the man at the bar, "if it is possible for a hird to sound like a mobile phone before

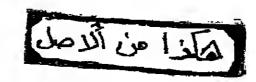
mobile phones were invented, it is also possible now for a hird to sound like something that has been discontinued."

"Come again," said the man with the dog, and I think he spoke for all of us.

Well, there are certain inventions which have become outmoded. The steam engine. The spinning jenny. Old-fashioned cash tills which jangled. Typewriter bells. They all had their own sound. What if there is some bird somewhere which makes a sound ex-

actly like one of those?" "Tell me what a spinning jenny sounded like and I'll tell you if there's a bird which sounds like it," said the red lady.

There was no answer to that and by common assent we moved on to a completely different topic.



THE PROPERTY OF THE PARTY OF TH

Uster gans must go SE STATE OF THE RO

Mark and a series of the serie

The object of the property of

Michigan Company Compa

Marie Andrews 

The second secon

Stanford Communication Communi

Market State of the State of th

No. 10 Company

Mexical Control of

Walking to school

Spart Commence

A September 1997 And A September 1997 A

Service of the servic

Charles and the second of

With the same of the

وينجون والمعارف فالمشعة

Williams

172

0.000

Free o building

. . . . . /

100

The second second second

\* 189

### Bring clarity to the world of charity in the 'Giving Age'

ONE OF the trees among the forest of small measures in Gordon Brown's Budget was a new tax break for charitable donations. It seemed a good idea; a sensible response to the decline in charitable giving in this country would be to make all donations to charity tax-deductible. Though the cause of the "philanthropy gap" between the United Kingdom and the United States lies deeper in our respective cultures, easier tax relief may shift Britain towards

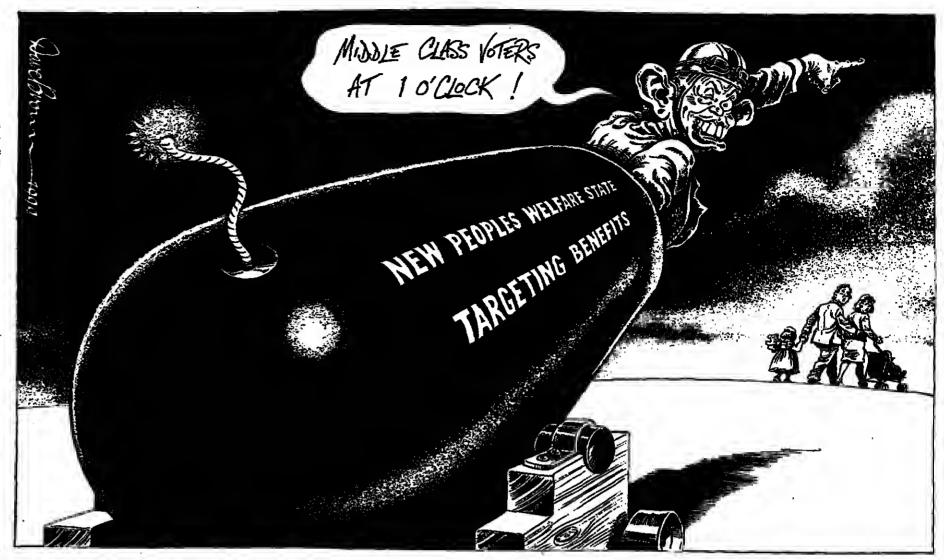
the "Giving Age" that the Prime Minister wants to see. However, when the small print of the Budget is examined closely it turns out that the Government is moving in rather small, crab-like steps, albeit in the right direction. The new tax relief, given its full youth-showbiz launch by the surreal duo of the Chancellor and Eddie Izzard yesterday, can be claimed only for donations of more than £100 to anti-poverty and educational projects in the world's poorest countries. It is thus only a small addition to the tax relief available for regular charitable donations over four years, and through payroll deductions.

This is a shame, but there is a good reason for being so restrictive, which is that the present definition of a charity is hopelessly out of date. The four headings - relief of poverty, education, promotion of religion and community benefit - were set out by the courts in 1891. And it would be wrong, to say the least, for the Chancellor to give further tax privileges to donations to Eton College. This is where we hit the limits to New Labour's radicalism. Private education is a sensitive area, in which votes can be lost. So sensitive that not even a review of charitable status carried out at arm's length from the Government by the Charity Commission can be allowed to touch it.

The most straightforward course for a radical government would be to redefine charitable objects to exclude fee-paying schools and religion (churches should not be charitable, except for the good works that they do), and then to make all donations to charity free of tax. But even that would rouse a whole host of angry clerics and suspicious professional parents.

Instead, Tony Blair and Mr Brown are trying to do good by stealth. Yesterday, the Charity Commission announced that relief of unemployment should be added to the list as an explicitly charitable purpose. At the same time it insisted that its review would not affect the long-standing recognition that advancement of education is charitable. Besides, it would require legislation to take away the existing privileges of private schools, and last November, when he was an education minister, Stephen Byers made it clear that the Government had no appetite for that,

Which is a pity. One solution is to give the Charity Commission more independence and more powers to "name and shame" the lazy charities that rely on sentiment and



tradition to build up huge reserves. With many similar charities operating in the same field, the commission could provide league tables so that donors can make informed decisions about where their money will be most effective.

Meanwhile, the existence of charity law means that the makers of our laws already determine that some ways of disposing of our disposable income are better than others. The existence of a state-sponsored National Lottery devoting its surplus to "good causes" says the same thing. So, as Mr Blair believes it is "good to do good", he is surely under an obligation to clarify what is good and what is not, and to remove from the "good" category anyall, that means excluding spending on private schools, which increases social division:

While this obvious injustice remains in the law, the new much like tinkering at the edges.

### Welcome back to the fray, Mr President

PRESIDENT CLINTON is to hold a news conference today, his first for more than a year. He returns to the fray an older and wiser man, with his extraordinary resilience lending a kind of dignity to the mere fact of his survival in office. His audiences, the journalists who will ask him questions, the American people and the wider world, all see him differently now. His image is stripped of all illusion, and thing for which a clear consensus does not exist. Above yet he remains popular and can still inspire a kind of weary, unambitious hope.

The year spent in the Lewinsky morass has done more damage abroad than at home, and so it is primarily to Amertax break for developing-world charities, and widening the ica's responsibilities in the world that the President should definition to include the relief of unemployment, seem very turn for the last 22 months of his term. With the peace process in Northern Ireland poised again on the edge, the Richard should say just one word: Congratulations!

White House's full attention could once again play a decisive role. With Nato - and its new central European members - on the verge of military action in Serbia, Mr Clinton's skills of diplomacy and rhetoric are needed. And with a newly assertive euro bloc engaged in trade skirmishes with the US, bis commitment to free trade needs to stand up against the American instinct for protection.

Welcome back, Mr President, there is work to be done.

### Congratulations!

QUITE APART from illustrating the absurdity of awarding knighthoods to pop stars, Sir Cliff's sanctimonious lecturing of his fellow (untitled) pop stars for refusing to perform free of charge on the night of 31 December is a bit of a cheek. Pop and sermous do not mix. If Barbra Streisand can earn £13m to sing in the new year in Las Vegas, Cliff

### Making Europe more democratic will also make it too powerful

IF THIS week has done anything, it has demonstrated that Europe isn't always boring Just as The Sun, from however distorted a perspective, helped to interest a large section of the British public in German politics for the first time by demonising Oskar Lafontaine last November, so the week-long crisis in the European Commission has powerfully increased the salience of the European Unioo as an issue. Ms Cresson has, if nothing else, made it on to the front pages of the largercirculation British papers.

So much the better. Since democratic legitimacy is one of the issues arising from the catastrophe, it's appropriate that the people should start to care. The danger, however, is that expectations will be too high. Will Europe really never be the same again? Is this a historic opportunity, or time for some mere window-dressing? Are we in for the big bang or the quick fix?

The familiar horse-trading under way to decide who is the new Commission president makes it look very much as if not much has changed. The job of who runs the devostated Commission matters, of course. Do not assume that Tony Blair necessarily wants Romano Prodi, despite his cordial relationship with the former prime minister of Italy. The signs in Whitehall are that he might, ideally. prefer Wim Kok, the Dutch Prime Minister, if he became available. If a Withern European candidate is med essential - as it may prove to be, after a long period of North European presidents - Mr Blair may prefer Javier Solana, the Secretary General of Nato. But he will keep his

counsel over the next few days. However, no one, least of all Mr Blair, thinks that the right choice of president solves the problems on its own. Nor will some of the necessary innovations for improving the Commission, which include a British-style auditor general with his own independent budget and security of tenure, and a trimming back of some of the Commission's ever-expanding remit to make it more economically and single-market focused. A bigger question is how to make the Commission more visibly accountable.

And here an idea that was much discussed in Whitehall last year and was then shelved, may just be coming back into its own: that of senior ministers for Europe from each member state probably reporting directly to their respective premiers, almost certainly at cabinet level, and responsible for sustaining the authority of the European Council (made up of heads of government) between their six-monthly summits. The ministers could even be permanently

placed in Brussels. The argument is that there is a ministerial power vacuum between the member-state governments and the Commission that was not originally intended. A decade ago or more the EU foreign ministers largely filled this vacuum through the General Affairs Council. Bot the increasing focus of this council on external issues (such as the Balkans) means that it is no longer as effective in this supervisory role. It was one reason why Jacques Delors, no less, went so far - and further than the British - as to suggest



### DONALD **MACINTYRE**

Will we be able to grasp a historic opportunity, or will we just see mere window-dressing?

a council of deputy prime ministers permanently based in Brussels.

Such a move would cause tensions within, as well as between. some member states. Take Britain, where it might have called into question the continuing responsibility of the Foreign Office for internal European affairs, especially if, as was hinted at the time the idea was current, Peter Mandelson had been a candidate for the job. It would have meant a second. cabinet-level minister in the Foreign Office. But another possibility might have been - and perhaps could be one day again - to transfer the main EU onsibilities to the Cabinet Office. This would annoy the FCO. On the other hand, the Cabinet Office was considered a possible home for European policy as long ago as the early enties, when Britain first joined the

Community. And some other European ministers - for example that of by the masses in their own country France - are in the equivalent departments to the Cabinet Office.

More pertinently, however, many of the smaller states deeply resented the idea that a powerful new arm of the European Council was suddenly stationed in Brussels overseeing the Commission, which they see as their protector against the predation of the bigger states - and reducing some of its powers in the process. The problem is that such an argument is much less tenable after this week's explos-

ive fraud report. No one has better summed up the dilemma posed by the crisis in Brussels than Dennis Skinner, who told the Commons with brutal clarity this week: "If [solving] the democratic deficit resulted in a European Parliament that could properly scrutinise fraud and all the rest of it, we would have a United States of Europe. My Right Hon friend the Prime Minister

does not want that, nor do L" Precisely. British reaction to the crisis this week has fallen, with variants, into two broad categories. One is Eurosceptic glee that it has exposed the European Commission, and by nimble extension the European Union, as deeply corrupt, weefully un-British, wilfully incompetent and much more trouble than it's worth. The other is a breathless rejoicing among the liberal pro-European intelligentsia that a thousand democratic flowers will bloom: the European Parliament, by forcing the Commission's resignation, has come of age at last and should assume new powers;

the Commissioners should be elected a proposal for which the British Prime Minister, at least, is not ready - and candidates for president should fight it out in a pan-European super-election. Transparency and accountability will rule for the next millennium.

The problem with the first argument is that no one, not even Michael Portillo, has thought of a better way of enforcing the single market, along with its good old Anglo-Saxon virtues, such as fair competition and subsidy free industries, than having a supranational body to do it. The problem with the second is what you could call the Skinner paradox. The trouble with democratic legitimacy is that it can make the institutions that have it too damned legitimate; suddenly an elected Commission, or a Strasbourg Parliament, with even sharper teeth, will see its power increased relative to, and to some extent at the expense of, the elected national governments to which the EU's institutions are

theoretically answerable. This is the unresolved conundrum of European reform. A semi-permanent session of high-powered European ministers reporting to the national leaders and spending much of their time in Brussels doesn't, at least on its own, answer the problem. But it would be a recognition of the infinitely greater role played by the EU in the domestic life of its member states than when the present structure was set up. And it would mean that there were some important and accountable figures keeping a stern eye on the

#### QUOTE OF THE DAY

"I'm not going to judge people who are asking for money to work that night, but I am not going to accept payments."

Sir Cliff Richard, pop singer, discussing the Millennium Eve

#### THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

"From an evolutionary point of view, man has stopped moving, if he ever did move." Pierre Teilhard de Chardin, French theologian and paleontologist

Naiga-lives in a tiny village in rural Uganda. A lively, fun-loving child in every way.

She is also deaf.
Her parents didn't understand.
Why couldn't she hear?
.Why couldn't she talk?
One day the
"Sound Seekers" mobile clinic
visited her village.
Things are a lot better now.
Reach out and help children like Naiga
We'd love to hear from you on 0171 233 5805
I/we would like to make a donation of £100 \(\mathbb{Q}\): £50 \(\mathbb{Q}\): £50 \(\mathbb{Q}\): £20 \(\mathbb{Q}\) other

ساقسالسالسا		
Expery Date	Synature	 Date

THERE'S GOOD news and bad because there is no institunews about the Olympic scandals. The good oews is that the International Olympic Committee yesterday expelled six of its members identified as having taken bribes to award the 2002 Winter Games to Satt ake City. The bad news is that OC Chairman Juan Antonio

The problem with international organizations like the toc is that they are prone to curruption on two fronts. First.

tional oversight, members begin to believe that they can get away with anything. Until now. Second, they begin to confuse their own interests with the high ideals they claim to be promoting. The IOC as constituted is probably un-reformable. New blood is certainly needed if anything worthwhile is to get done at all. Samaraoch must go. The sooner the better. Globe & Mail, Canada

### **MONITOR**

ALL THE NEWS OF THE WORLD Comment on the sacking of six officials from the International Olympic Committee

THE CURRENT IOC has lost the games, do not want to be the right to lead. A purge is associated with a tawdry affair needed - that of Samaranch. If sponsors pull out, it will be But can a corrupted body clean impossible for cities such as itself? Sponsors, largely US this one to stage Olympic-style corporations that underwrite events in the future. And if

reform does oot take place, sponsors will fiee. Olympic rules are clear; they simply have been ignored and, with them, so have the Olympic ideals of fair play and inter-national good will. Total reform, not a wintewash, is essential. San Antonio Express News, US

THERE ARE even murmurings of a European Unioo boycott of the Sydney Games. While this would be most regrettable, the disgust at the

with the Olympic movement is understandable. If the Olympic ideal is to be revived, the process of choosing the host city for the games needs to be de much more transparent and IOC members more accountable

Yet as long as Mr Sama ranch remains, so too will the question of whether there is sufficient will in the IOC leadership for reform.

Helping Deaf Children in Developing Countries MEDICAL TREATMENT

MALITE VARIE) £12,623.00. APR 8.4%. Further charges may be made \$3,75. Total charge for credit £2,435.95 (includes a finance facility fee of £70, payable with the first o milesge/condition if the vehicle is returned at the end of the finance agreement. Written quotations

### **PANDORA**

glass bowl of Waterford

Crystal m the new embassy

lobby. The ambassador was

peeved to subsequently see the shamrocks had

vanished. Then he noticed

green detritus from their

his Chinese guests picking

IT'S TAKEN them 20 years but

Soul, Paul Michael Glaser and

Antonio "Huggy Bear" Fargas

London's Brixton next week.

flag to support his sometime

Fridge, a theatre-music type

event, playing sporadically at

(surprise!) The Fridge from 24 March until 8 April This

Seveoties nostalgia - but at

WHICH IS more than can be said for ITV's hideously

sitcom Days Like These, If

thought that anyone during

the Seventies used phrases like "sorted" and "I'm there

weren't there themselves, they're not all here either.

SOMEONE WHO'S not just here and there but

smear campaigns) it's

another – like this. A

too busy running the

Guy isn't telling us?

WINNER OF Pandora's

country," Which country

everywhere is Robin Cook. If

it isn't one thing (private life,

hroadcast hack calling the

a comment was told, "No,

you can't speak to him, he's

would that be then? Kosovo?

something our Number One

Sierra Leooe? Or is there

Cookie Monster this week for

lame pseudo-Seventies

its cretinons creators

for you" they not only

reunion may be bilious

least it's pukka bilious

Seventies nostalgia.

co-stars' show Alive in the

Glaser, who's carved out a

successful career as a TV director in LA, is waving the

will finally sit down in the

same room together - in

Starsky & Hutch trio David

STANLEY KUBRICK'S death robbed cinema of one its great eccentrics, but Marion Brando (pictured) still punches his considerable weight, A baffled Charlie Sheen watched as the Master of the Mumble, while filming Free Money, dashed into a bathroom where be inexplicably stuck his head into the lavatory bowl. Brando also repeatedly hammered female lead Mira Sorvino about the noggin with one of her high heels during shooting. But Brando's methodology seems contagious on set: "Mira really got into it," according to director Yves Simoneau. "She was asking him for more."

**ALLEGED ARTIST Martin** Creed, a friend of Damien Hirst, has got up the noses of the good citizens of London's Clapton. The conceptual Creed plans to tart op a Grade II listed building with a neon sign proclaiming "Everything is going to be alright". Oh no it's not, say residents of Linscott Road, home of the Portico, the 18th-century house in the eye of this particular cyclone. Apparently the local worthies feel Creed's project's disrespectful. One suggested nobbling the illumination, so it reads "eVERY THING is gOiNg to be AlRighT".

FOLLOWING PANDORA'S revelations about Gordon Ramsay's unhygienic kitchen practices, it seems Kensington & Chelsea environmental bealth officers have become interested in the Truffle Thief's den, "We will he visiting the restaurant by the end of this week," one confirmed

LAST WORD on St Paddy's Day shenanigans; when the Irish opened their new Beijing embassy on their national day a couple of aide placed sbamrocks



Happens. It assigned a reporter to cover Minecia Prada's Miu Min show in Milan. The run-of-sbow ootes consisted, in their I tried on the It burst at the seams

entirety, of a four-line poem by quondam Hollywood movie director Tim Stick Boy liked Match Girl He liked her a lot He liked her cute figure, He thought she was hot. CH's scribe responded:

Thanks onyway Miu I'll stick to my jeans. Miaow!

Contact Pandora by email: pandora@ independent.co.uk

### Keep on spending, Your Majesty

entertainment has been caused all round by the revelation of the Queen Mother's overdraft. It probably didn't come as a surprise to anyone at all; it was always one of those things which everybody "knew", propagated more by a desire by the whole nation that it should be true than by a sober assessment of its probability.

There are some stories which, however intrinsically unlikely or fatuous they may be (such as, say, that two male cabinet ministers in the last government were sleeping with each other), spread to all four corners of the world, simply because people would like them to be true. A Chinese tofu-farmer, a Papuan hunter-gatherer or an American undergraduate may be quite unable to indicate Europe on a map of the world. But you can bet your life that. if they see a particular Hollywood actor appearing at their local multiplex, they will all turn to their girl and say: "You know, he likes to push hamsters up his bottom. A friend of my brother's knows someone who knows him."

The story of the Queen Mother's



#### PHILIP HENSHER

It wasn't the existence of the overdraft that surprised us, but the fact that it was only £4m

overdraft, I always thought, fell rather into this category. We all have friends of friends who know someone who was once at dinner with the Queen and heard her say: "My goodness, let's not talk ahout Mummy's overdraft". And we all wanted it to be true. It has all the hallmarks of a really great urban myth: the nice old lady who keeps up the middle-class front of cosy

at Clarence House to feed the corgis

And the other part of it is, of course, that the rest of the Royal Family are such splendid, notorious. tightwads. You wouldn't want the Oneen to be an extravagant entertamer, and she isn't. If you want exquisitely inventive canapés and wines of lavish quality, you'd be better off going to a midweek party at the embassy of some slightly grubby Eastern European state. The Queen has nothing to prove ~ she knows quite well that nobody remembers a party at Windsor by

the brilliantly witty canapés. So it's agreeable to think that one member of the Firm, and the least likely one at that, really does continue to indulge herself and her guests on a truly imperial scale. We all wanted to think it was the case, and now it seems that, unlike most such urban myths, what we wanted to believe turns out to be true.

The disappointing thing about it, however, is the size of the overdraft. If the newspapers are to be believed, she owes the bank about £4m. Four million quid! My God, is that all the

family life before shutting the door debt she can acquire in the course of 98 years? I could run up debts of four million in a fortnight!

The size of the Queen Mother's income is pretty well unknown; there is the £650,000-odd from the Civil List, of course, which probably just about covers the servants, if that; the rest of it is private income. and none of our business. But what we can pretty well say is that her way of life has probably exceeded her means by a small, steady margin, and not exceeded the means of her family at all. If anyone - the Queen Mother, her family, the bank were remotely worried about the debt, I expect we would see her famous Monet down at Sotheby's, and the supply of gin and Dubonnets

would continue unchecked. So what on earth are the papers going on about? The extraordinary something-must-be-done lather some people were getting them-selves into about the overdraft had to be seen to be believed. I expect sooner or later the debt will have to be repaid; and if it comes from public funds, we will know about it. But it won't, of course it won't, and with that, the slightest justification

for writing about the overdraft disappears. The only reason, really, the papers had for going into it was prurience and vulgarity, and their striking of moral postures was far less attractive than the extravag-

ance they pretended to denounce. The reason the information had any coverage, of course, was all to do with the betraval of illusions. Much as the middle classes would like the Queen Mum to be a nice cosy granny in a bat from British Home Stores, I think they ought to accept that she is not. She is the last Empress of India. And even if, like me, you think the monarchy probably ought to be closed down at some point, we have an obligation towards its past; an obligation which we should not betray for the sake of a measly four million quid.

May her taps be made of gold, and spew gin and Dubonnet night and day; may orchids be strewn in the race. Because, frankly, spectacle is cheap, and the amusement, fascination and gaiety afforded the nation by HM, and her extravagance, is not something we should even think of

### So is corruption really just a vice of the Latin nations?

CORRUPTION IS a Latin vice, according to Europeans in the Teutonic north. The fault lines separating them from the culture of the south are moral. As you approach the Mediterranean, you have to buy bureaucrats and bribe businessmen. Southerners need sweeteners. In the lands of olive oil, palms need greasing. Romano Prodi is hranded as unfit for the European Commission presidency on the grounds that northerners could not tolerate an Italian in charge of sleaze.

Yet, in the light of the current Euro-scandal the north looks naughtier than the Mediterranean. In deference to the myth of northern purity, the committee of "sages" who drew up the explosive report on fraud, nepotism, cronyism, malpractice and mismanagement in Brussels was weighted in favour of northerners.

in the French legislature, repre-sented Finisterre. The Italian commissiooers were exonerated by the sages. Spanish and Portuguese commissioners jobbed their wives into work in Brussels but without infringing proper procedures; their excess was of zeal for the family values we hear so much about. The Spaniard. Maduel Marin, sometimes acted sluggishly but was prompt to clean up fraud in the aid programme to Mediterranean countries. Among commissioners, he is the only southerner whose integrity seems less than fully burnished by the report. whereas against the northerners Jacques Santer and Erki Liikanen of Finland, allegations of nepotism are merely said to be "unproven". The cropvism of which the German Monika Wulf-Mathies is accused is the result, in the sages' restrained-



#### **FELIPE** FERNANDEZ-ARMESTO

The notion that we southerners are more corrupt than northerners looks increasingly a myth

The south was represented by ly damning language, of "an inapone Spaniard. His colleagues were propriate procedure". Edith Cresa Swede, a Belgian, a Dutchman - son, painted as the scarlet woman as far north in France as you can get.

This subversion of north-south stereotypes - respectively of clean hands and sticky fingers - seems in line with the overall balance of scandal in today's Europe. North and south are like pot and kettle and neither out-shines the other. Though Britain's commissioners are guiltless in Brussels, Tony's cronies hang around Westminster, where cash has bought influence. Suspicions of corrupt electoral practices have recently led to the exclusion of an MP. The contest to be the Labour candidate to head the Welsh government has been strewn with sex drugs and rumours of vote-rigging. In the era of open government and press vigilance scandal seems ubiouitous. Europe's juicier recent political scandals have been evenly spread across the map. In Ireland,

a former prime minister has been let off his tax bill by a commission led by his successor's brother-in law.

In Belgium, a Secretary-Gener-al of Nato and 11 other high officials were condemned in a flagrant corruption case, and a deputy prime minister was murdered in an alleged attempt at a cover-up. In Finland, a spy scandal last year exposed the corruptibility of public servants; in France, the president has been implicated in a scam involving sinecures for political cronies. In Laxembourg, the health minister resigned because his department had been paying phooey hospital bills. The notion that southerners are more corrupt than northerners looks increasingly like a myth.

England, in particular, has a long history of spectacularly corrupt plunderers of the system. It has been lleged on behalf of Edith Cresson that in employing ber dentist as ber scientific adviser at public expense she was merely showing rational

defence against corruption when be was Lord Chancellor of England in the early 17th century: be had taken bribes, but did not allow them to influence his judgement. Justifying his depredations, the 18th-century im-perialist Robert Clive declared himself "astonished at my own moderation". When David Lloyd George was prime minister, he sold titles of honour and preferment. The "lavender list" that bore the names of Harold Wilson's honorands exuded a similar scent of corruption.

It would be rash, however, to suppose that no great historic transformation is in progress. Europe's map of sleaze is being re-drawn against the background of two long-

term processes of change, First is a change in perceptions.



Romano Prodi is unfit for the EU presidency, say northerners

southern corruptibility has been lands and Sweden could, for most of based, in part, on an irrational in-This recalls Sir Francis Bacon's and artists who formed their fellow northerners' perceptions of southern Europe over 300 years. A conviction of superior parity, moreover, was, until recently, part of Protestants' myth of themselves, enshrined in the theory of the sociologist Max Weber, who claimed that Protestant culture was characterised by "inner-worldly asceticism". Nowadays no one is likely to be deceived by climatic determination or believe Weber's theory.

Secondly, it must be acknowledged that changing perceptions reflect a real change in the morals of public life in the south. Corruptibility comes not from the air or the climate hut from the economic environment and the political culture In the 17th and 18th centuries, relatively cash-rich, high-tax regimes Historically, northern contempt for such as those of Britain, the Nether-

the time, afford salaried functionference from the whiff of the south: aries who did not normally have to the rapid rot and taint, the debilit- buy their offices from crown or ating climate, the malodorous air. state. In France, Spain, Italy and Images of corruption came easily to parts of Germany in the same perby venality; office-bolders bought their jobs and had to exploit them for all they could get. There was therefore a long period when standards of public service were genuinely more professional and less venal in some parts of Europe than in others. In the last 200 years this has grad-

nally fitfully ceased to be true. We now have more-or-less-uniform systems throughout the European Union. Mutual acculturation has made south and north ever more like each other. We are beginning to recognise our prejudices about each other as historically instructive but misleadingly irrelevant. Let no part of Europe think itself better in this respect than another; corruption is everybody's problem.

The author's latest book is Truth:

### THE INDEPENDENT

COOKER HOOD FILTERS - Just £6.95 per pair inc p&p

501 COOKERCEN類OL COKER CONTROL COOKER CONTROL

These super value Cooker Hood Filters (it all standard sized cooker toods and are able to be cut to the required size, if necessary. They are made from 100% polyester fibre and with no chemical additives, One side has an open surface for pre-filtering larger faity particles. and the other side has a futer fleece for filtering the minute particles from the oir. The filters will eliminate all unpleasant smells and odours associated with cooking and frying due to their construction. They will indicate when they need to be changed by the printing on the surface changing colour. The Cooker Hood Filter measures 22 h.\* V18 C and the set comes complete with two filters and a pair of disposable gloves for handling the dirty filters for only £6.95

including delivery and VAT. Holographen have general the formed Partnerson in Locking No. (1979). HOW TO ORDER (Far UK readons unly) Fill in the compost quoting your MASTER-CARD-VISA number, or send with cheque postal orders, NO CASH, to THE INDEPENDENT COOKER BOOD FILTER OFFER, 25 PENBROKE HALL. MILBERRY CLOSE, LONDON NWA IQW Or call the CREDIT CAPD ORDER HOTLINE ON 0181 202 3575 ACCESS MASTERCARD welcome, Pleas quate ref.IND416. Allow 28 days for deligent. Subject

detivery. Subject to availability. If you are not fully substant return water 7 days for a full return Hood Filters & 10.95 per pair me pêtp enclose a crossed cheque/PO for \_\_\_ saddress on hack) made payable

NORTH DEST NEWSPORES (IN) LTD PORE.

Send to THE POLYEOGENT COOKER HOUR FILTER PER. 25 Pentarake Hall, Miliberry Close, Lendon NW4 (QW, Please taking but if you do not wish to re

OF ALL the many tribu- tralians. The Irish have really taries that have shaped the mighty river which is the modern Australia, none in a sense has been more distinctive and more important

inheritance is part of the modern Australian identity. It has brought many things to Australia, it has contributed in many distinctive ways. It is impossible, for example, to hear the sort of music that we have heard this morning and not realise the enormous contribution that it made to shap-

than the contribution of the

Irish to this country. The Irish

ing music in this country. One of the captivating, indeed endearing, things about being an Australian in 1999 is that as we approach the Centenary of the Federation of our nation all of us are reflecting more and more on what made us as we are today. Some 35 to 40 per cent of Australians claim an Irish ancestry and do it proudly.

In my own case, my maternal great-grandmother was born in County Westmeath and my paternal great grandfather was born in Portadown in County Armagh. A fairly familiar pattern of so many Aus-

been part of the Australian story now for more than 200 years. And their culture, their attitudes, their passions, their way of life have become inseparably part of the Australian way of life. But, of course, when we

think of Ireland and we think of Australia we don't only think of it nostalgically and romantically we also, and historically, think of it in contemporary terms. And today Ireland is a modern thriving successful economy. It is indeed an economy with probably the fastest economic growth in the European Union. It is an economy that has been transformed over the last 20 years. It has defied the critics.

I first visited Ireland in 1977. I went as an Australian minister for special trade negotiations. I was trying to get a better trade deal for Australian produce in what was then the European Common Market and I got pretty lean pickings just about everywhere ! went, in every capital. And at that time the Irish economy was really struggling. Since then things have changed and I am

delighted at the incredible suc-



Australia's debt to the Irish

JOHN HOWARD From a speech given in Melbourne by the Prime Minister of Australia to mark St Patrick's Day

achieved in recent times.

cess that the Irish economy has

We honour, as Australians, the contribution of the Irish to the history of this country. We recognise that it has not always been an experience free of discrimination and intolerance. Like all societies through the 20th century we went through our experiences of the divisions of sectarianism within our community.

the Irish in Australia who were overwhelmingly Catholic have suffered the discrimination of being forced to pay for the education of their children in their faith. And I am very proud, of course, that that well known member of the Melhourne Scotts and self declared humble Presbyterian, Robert Menzies, more than anybody else brought to an end that discrimination. And now Australia probably has a system of openness and tolerance and freedom of choice in relation to the education of its children second to none any-

Regarding the fragile peace process - and it is fragile - we were reminded again only this morning by our television bulletins that the mad men and women on both sides of the argument are still to be found and those people are to be shumed and the example of those two great Nobel Prize winners. John Hume and David Trimble. are to be very much respected.

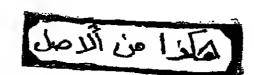
where in the world.

I know that all Australians who have any affinity for Ireland and their Irish associations will join in prayers and hopes for a successful fruition And for more than 100 years of the Good Friday agreement.

It is a great privilege for me to acknowledge the immense Irish contribution to our nation, without which we wouldn't be what we are today. I can't conceive of Australian politics having been anything remotely resembling what it has been over the last 40 or 50 years without the Irish contribution.

For so long, of course, the Irish contribution to Australian politics was seen as overwhelmingly belonging to the Australian Labor Party for obvious historical reasons. The Liberal Party that I joined in 1957 when I left school in Sydney didn't boast an enormous number of people of Irish Catholic descent. But I can say that over 40 or 50 years that has changed and I can say to all of you that there is an adequate supply of Faheys and Heffernans and Herrons and McNamaras - and indeed the list can go on - of people of Irish descent bringing their passion, their particular view, to the lifeblood and to the existence of our political party. It is a wonderful occasion. I

salute the Irish contribution to our nation, It wouldn't be what it is



### Majesty

illy just

lations?

Nastri ama ag

A CONTRACTOR

v

3.45

### For the sake of our children



### DEBORAH ORR

Men are letting down their children, in part because they no longer know wbat fathers are for

IT'S BEEN another fantastic week for children. Or rather, in exactly 20 years there will be a fantastic week for children, when we can all cele-brate the wiping out of child abuse by the NSPCC and the wiping out of child poverty by New Labour Both groups have asserted that their aim is possible within a generation, and the existence of the secood pledge tends to give more though not enough - credence to

Labour's pledge was announced yesterday by Tony Blair, as he delivered this year's Beveridge Lecture in London's East End. Calling for a return to the progressive image of welfare, which was fos-tered at the time of the Beveridge report in 1942, Blair spent much time reiterating the Government's successes so far in this department - thanks again for that budget, Gordon - and talking of "radical welfare reform", the details of which remained rather more sketchy.

Blair also stressed that the real growth of social security spending had been cut by almost 1 per cent a year and £5bn less had been spent than the last government had planned for. The implication seems to be that child poverty can be eradicated cheaply. Maybe that's why it's going to take 20 years. Child poverty in Britain, like human hunger in the world, is one of these problems we could sort out by midsummer's eve if we really wanted to, And Blair knows perfectly well that we don't really want to.

Which brings us to the second theme of his speech, which is tackling the problem that really will need at least two decades to sort out. That, of course, is persuading the comfortably off that the only way to make Britain a better place for them to live in is for the adearned cash not on themselves

but the disadvantaged. Frankly the benefits of doing so are easy to imagine, for we know that poverty breeds not just more poverty, but also crime, teenage motherhood, neglect and abuse of children, educational failure and a host of other social ills. Meanwhile the folly of failing to subsidise the poor is something we live with

The solution of the middle class-



Does Britain suffer from 'kiddie apartheid', with 'nice' middle-class children being kept away from the 'bogey-kiddies'?

es to the problem of living in a society that includes millions of children living below the poverty line is kiddie apartheid. It starts with the morning school run in the gas-guzzling car to the school that does well in the league tables, rather than the school that the children could get to under their own steam. And it ends with the bedroom television-watching that the LSE says half of all six-

to seven-year-olds indulges in. Parenting culture is becoming ever more concerned with keeping its kiddies away from the bogeykiddies to the severe detriment of both groups of children and all levels of society. And as well as being bad for children, maintaining kiddle apartheid costs a lot more time and money than would be spent on subsidising the poorest.

Which brings us to another interesting point. While I was impressed by Flash Gordon's children-centred budget, there are two notable aspects to the general policy underlying the budget that belie its own aims.

First, there's the emphasis on work. This doesn't apply only to lone mothers, who the Government would clearly prefer to see in work, even if it is detrimental to their parGovernment has allowed them to retain the right to parent full-time if they strongly feel they should do so.) It applies to all parents.

While the hudget helped families great deal, the families it rewarded the most were poor working families, who benefit from the 10p starting rate for income tax, the 1p cut in income tax, children's tax credit and the family allowance. Obviously, for the really poor-parents living on benefits - only the last of these measures will be applicable.

While New Labour asserts that these measures will lift 700.000 children out of poverty, it is estimated that a staggering 3.9 million will still be left below the poverty line. Clearly there are only two ways in which these children can be helped out of poverty-either by getting their parents out to work, or by raising their benefits

What New Labour is clearly afraid of - witness Blair's recent tough presentation of the benefitfraud "crackdown" announced a few weeks ago by Alistair Darling -is raising the benefits of lone mothers, thus making it yet more tempting for deprived teenage girls to have babies alone and bring them

enting. (Although, to its credit, the up on welfare. But the vast majority of lone mothers haven't in fact chosen to live this way. It is the men who are letting down their children, in part because they no longer

seem to know what fathers are for While the difficulties of bringing fathers to account financially have been well illustrated by the workings of the Child Support Agency, I believe that moving the burden of breadwinning, as well as parenting. on to single mothers is fraught with difficulties, not just for poor children, but for the institution of the family that New Labour is sin-cerely but misguidedly trying to help. What we really have to start learning to value is parenting, not just the parenting that mothers provide, but that which fathers provide

This is the next seismic shift that society has got to make if it is to progress. There is a wealth of evidence all around us that the oew model of parenting whereby both parents work is not a good ooe. It tires women, it causes dissatisfaction; it creates strains between men and women which end with broken families. While women don't want to lose the advantages they have gained over the pas 30 years, there is a growing awareness that the kind of equality whereby women simply live more like men is not a suitable way for families to thrive.

both mother and father do some

breadwinning and some home-

making. To achieve this (and, as a

by-product, full employment) we

need shorter working hours for a start - ours are the highest in Eu-

rope - and far more part-time

work. In fact, as life becomes yet

more complex, there's a very good

case for a four-day instead of a five-

the years during which our children

are small. While the Government

is right to concentrate resources on

this period in people's lives, we

should be thinking about providing

for our parenting years privately as

well, with parent plans supple-

menting pension plans; the accep-

tance by employers that men are

as likely as women to need time off,

or even some years of part-time

work, to look after their children:

and, immediately, tax hreaks for

be planning over the next 20 years.

Child poverty we can eradicate by

the end of the next Labour gov-

ernment. Only mooey can stop

poverty. Radical reform should be

directed at creating far more com-

This is the revolution we should

childcare costs.

plex kinds of change.

We also need to prepare more for

day week.

And while Freud was condemned by feminists because of his continual assertions that case study A to case study Z had psychological problems because of their mother's smother-love, it seems to me that it's possible that all of our babies have been thrown out with the bathwater. Maybe Freud's observations don't mark him out as a misogynist at all. Maybe they instead warned us right at the beginning of the century that the working patterns that evolved along with the industrial revolution left too much of the parenting hurden with women and not enough of it with men.

I know a couple of men who gave up work when their babies were born, since their partners earned more than they did. Both of them have brought up their daughters marvellously, even though they share some of the problems that women did in the days when they were expected to stay at home.

What we clearly need now is more equitable parenting, in which

### RIGHT OF REPLY

KEITH PORTEOUS WOOD



secretary of the National Secular Society responds to an article by Andreas Whittam Smith

ANDREAS WHITTAM Smith is wrong to say that the Church of England is "declining much faster" than the "more successful" Roman Catholic Church. According to Religious Trends, published by Christian Research, C of E attendance declined by 12 per cent between 1980 and 1995 whereas the Roman Catholic's dropped 31 per cent, more

than any other major church. Mr Whittam Smith claims that the Catholic Church's purported smaller decline in attendances results from its discipline and unpopular teaching on sex and marriage". In fact, these are the very teachings and discipline that have caused the RC church to haemorrhage.

Many RC adherents have "lapsed", repelled by inhumane RC doctrines, the worst of which is its policy on "artificial" contraception. Many openly flout the teachings on birth control. World-wide, the policy results in over-population and increased poverty. The proscription of condoms also frustrates the fight against the spread of sexually transmitted diseases.

Mr Whittam Smith takes particular exception to Dr Carey's claim that the C of E "is a generatioo away from extinction". Carey's remarks, probably intended to rally the troops after a failed decade of evangelism, may be eveo more prophetic than he realised. The pressure to create women bishops will become irresistible, despite the Archbishop of York's resignation threat. The Lambeth conference exposed another potential split, over the issue of gay priests. Could the C of E survive multiple schisms?

If the next Pope is as reactionary as the present one, the National Secular Society expects the Catholic Church, too, will soon be predicting its own demise in this country.

### Where myth meets reality

GOTHAM BEGINS with a myth of origin: that Manhattan island was purchased by the Dutch from Native Americans in the early 17th century for a mere \$24. New Yorkers, it seems, have always loved a bargain. All Americans are familiar with this myth or a similar version of it - my memory is that the land was handed over for a beaded necklace or two.

No matter about the exact details of exchange; the point of the legend remains. New York (or New Amsterdam, as the Dutch called it) has always been a place of opportunism, where individuals with an eye for the main chance could make their fortunes. As the authors of this exceedingly wellresearched and definitive history suggest, New York was almost destined to be "a city of deal-makers, a city of commerce, a City of Capital". At least, after the arrival of exploitative Europeans in the age of discovery. Long before New York became



### FRIDAY BOOK

GOTHAM: A HISTORY OF **NEW YORK CITY TO 1898** BY EDWIN G BURROWS AND MIKE WALLACE OXFORD UNIVERSITY PRESS. £30

America's most important financial centre, it was a rough-and-tumble company town. Under Dutch rule, the settlement was run by the West India Company, which attracted "the mottiest assortment of souls in Christendom". A mostly male group of Dutch, English, Swedish, German, Danish, French and others had come to the bountiful New World, and to this city,

to seek their fortunes in trading. Multiculturalism and money were defining elements from the outstart. Things didn't change when James Stuart, Duke of York, decided that he would quite like a taste of the big apple

FRIDAY POEM

BY JOAN JOHNSTON

and he hasn't even noticed - too busy

I've spent all week wiring it up

installing an ornamental well

fitting dimmer-switches

Two days from now

this house will implode

I'll be gone on the Metro

and one change of clothes.

inside the kitchen alcoves.

beside the gnomes on the patio,

and when the dust finally settles

with the detonator, the vibrator

From 'What You Want' by Joan Johnston, published at £3.95 by Diamond Twig Press, 5 Bentinck Road, Newcastle upon Tyne NE4 6UT

in the 1660s. York took the city and its vast surrounding wilderness from the Dutch with ease, and established a tremendously tight reign on the colony which filled his coffers. New York (as it was renamed) was important for a number of reasons. It was an already established centre of trade; it was ideally located to keep a check on the French further north in Canada; and, it ensured that Britain controlled virtually all of America's east coast.

Just over a century later, it was money matters, as much as philosophical ideas about liberty, which led Americans to revolt against British rule. Shortly after Evacuation Day in 1783, when the last British redcoats left New York, the city began to re-estabfish itself as a financial centre which had been corrupted under those history. To cope with the great crash "blood-sucking harpies", the occupying British troops. In the early years of the Republic, New York was a magnet for cash- and credit-rich immi-

grants eager to speculate financially. It didn't take long for New York to assert its economic power, and over-take other cities (such as Philadelphia and Boston) as the pre-eminent city of the US. When the Erie Canal esta blished a water route into America's heartland in tha 1820s-30s, The Times predicted that New York would become the "London of the New World". That acute observer of American life, Fanny Trollope, compared New York to Venice, which rises "from the sea, and like that fairest of cities in the days of her glory, receives into its lap tribute of all the riches of the earth".



is a city of comebacks - one reason why it has such a special place in the American imagination. Reversals of fortune, as much as rags-to-riches narratives, are central to New York's

of 1837, New Yorkers developed a literature and "lore of bankruptcy". The depression novel was invented to help explain the precariousness of social ties in a boom-and-bust economy. Largely due to the railroad, clippers and steamships, by the mid-19th century New York's financial muscle could be flexed once more. The gold rush in the West also filled New York's

numerous banking institutions with seemingly endless resources. Increased manufacturing followed, and by 1853, New York felt confident enough to build a Crystal Palace to rival that of London's at the Great Exhibition.

By the end of the 19th century, New York was established as America's pre-Even at its lowest points, New York mier city. Media, manufacturing, bank-

ing, culture - virtually every aspect of American life centred there. For Walt Whitman, New York was "the great place of the Western Continent, the heart, the brain, the focus, the main spring, the pionacle, the extremity, the no more beyond of the new world". For its citizens then (as now), all roads led

Gotham is a tremendously successful urban history, which weaves together many strands, including slavery and immigration, political economy and cultural history. It focuses on the period from the Revolution to 1898, when New York gradually defined itself in a young, ambitious country. One of the really interesting things about this study is that the his tory of the city and its personality seems so familiar, well before the advent of the iconic New York (of skyscrapers and great views) we think of today. And for that fascinating history, I eagerly await the next volume.

SONY Mavica FD-5 3.5" floppy disk based digital carners at an outstanding price! ✓ 640x480 pixel VGA resolution ✓ 25" LCD screen Up to 20 images in fine mode, 40 images saved in standard £20 off accessory kit E-180 3-hour high grade rape. PHOTO . VIDEO . DIGITAL TEXAMESS MAN Order FREEPHONE BROWN 038 8899 77

\_\_\_\_\_\_

grant of the

فالمراجعة والمتراجي

1. Sept. 18 1. 18 1. 29

and the state of and the second second al <del>Villa</del>de III e The same

y + 5 € E - (... 1 - ) Section of the second

23.75. Total charge for credit 59,435.95 (includes a finance facility fee of £70, payable with the first

### Rod Hull

TELEVISION IS a great consumer of behave like one. In fact the animal talent. It uses people up and then spits them out into the oblivion of nanto and seaside piers. Rod Hull, the children's entertainer known to millions throughout the Seventies and Eighties for his manic act with the anarchic puppet Emu, a bad-tempered and aggressive blue and yellow bird, provides a cautionary tale. He rose to the top of his profession but fell from grace because of over-exposure, mismanagement and his own

Hull was born in 1935 on the Isle of Sheppey in Kent. His father Leonard was a jack-of-all-trades with an optimistic outlook on life and a succession of odd jobs. "Life at home was like a panto," Hull later recalled:

We were quite poor. My father never succeeded in anything, but that never worried him. Or me. Or my mother Hilda who was as he was and terribly proud of him. It was just Dad. Life to him was a giggle. He always gave me bags of love. And he taught me that as long as you've got a sparkle in your eye, life will be good.

The young Rod discovered the delights of Charles Dickens through The Pickwick Papers and made puppet theatres out of cornflake packets. Adopting his father's philosophy, Hull, who had a stammer and was a rather shy boy, decided to go on stage to conquer both problems. By the time he was 15, he had joined the local concert party where he met his first wife, Sandra, a hairdresser. They married six years

later and had two daughters. Having done his National Service in the Royal Air Force, Hull qualified as an electrician. In 1958, he and his family decided to follow his parents' example and emigrate to Australia At first, Hull used his qualifications and designed floodlights for bowling greens hut soon, he got a job as an electrician in a new television studio. Inevitably, Hull got the TV bug and began writing scripts for others before eventually hosting his own early morning children's show.

In 1969, the classic double act with the giant and uncontrollable Emu was born. "A viewer sent in a real emu's egg which I put on the radiator to hatch," explained Hull when asked about the genesis of this unlikely partnership. "A few weeks later, I was wondering what we could get to come out of the bloody thing when I came across Emu in the props room. I picked him up and the whole thing just took off." The flightless Australian bird - Dromaius Novachollandieae - looked like an ostrich but certainly didn't

had quite a bad temper and children immediately identified with the

creature's mischievous character. Hull supported the actor Warren Mitchell on a tour of Australia during which he met his second wife Cher, an artist. "I knew the moment I saw her that she was the woman for me. I felt an excitement I had never experienced before. I wanted her to be a part of me. She showed me the potential within myself," he said. Later, Cher and Rod wrote several children's books together in the series Emu's Little World.

In 1970, following the lead of many Australian-based entertainers from Rolf Harris to Olivia Newton-John, Hull, who "felt homesick", came back to Britain. Emu's unpredictable behaviour soon made Rod Hull a national institution. No respecter of authority or royalty, Emu ate the Queen Mother's bouquet at the Royal Variety Show in 1972. "She didn't bat an eyelid. Just looked very concerned and said: 'I think your Emu is rather hungry'," revealed Hull.

Tve never felt affection for Emu. he is just part of my work, like a word processor would be to someone else'

Emu acted out a similar stunt on Michael Parkinson in 1976, wrestling the presenter to the ground and devouring his shoe. The British boxer John Conti looked on bemused; Hull and Emu wisely didn't pick on him. The clip remains a firm favourite with BBC archivists and compilers.

Like many puppeteers, Hull had a love-bate relationship with his creation. "Tve never felt affection for Emu. He is just part of my work, like a word processor would be to someone else. But I'm grateful he brought me affluence," he said. Rod and Emu fronted a succession of popular television shows. Rod Hull and Emu paved the way for EBC (Emu's Broacasting Company) and later Emu's World Emu's Wide World and EMU-TV. The pair fought Grotbags

the evil witch in Emu's Pink Windmill, made several records, sold out the London Palladium on a regular basis, appeared on This Is Your Life and even created their own pantomime: Emu in Pantoland. "It was a wonderful time. Life could not have been better," remembered Hull, who, at the time, could command £5,000 per show. Having appeared several times on the Royal Variety Show. Hull adapted the idea to his target audience and devised the first Children's Royal Variety Performance which he hosted in 1981.

However, he soon experienced difficulties similar to that of his fellow entertainer Ken Dodd. By 1986, Hull had become one of the highest paid entertainers on TV and bought Restoration House, a 32-roomed Elizabethan mansion in Rochester, Kent, which he hoped to restore to its original splendour. "We were trying to save it from being knocked down and replaced by a car park. I felt so proud that I - who was once a little child with a speech impediment - was able to restore such a historic place. Dickens, who writes about the house both in Great Ex-pectations and The Mystery Of Educin Drood, was my idol," said Hull, who played Fagin in several fund-raising productions of Oliver! at his children's public school.

However, the Eighties property boom bubble burst and, by the turn of the Nineties, Hull's £350,000 investment became an albatross around his neck. An unscrupulous accountant didn't help. "I didn't realise how bad things were until I received a buff envelope from the taxman saying I hadn't paid tax for five years. Ever since I'd started in show business, I'd had the same person to manage my money. It was someone I trusted absolutely," he said.

When I phoned him to ask what was when I phoned min to ask what was going on, he broke down and sid he was very sorry, that he had mismanaged everything. At first, I couldn't believe it. Then I decided that I could either cry my heart out and feel sorry for myself or smile and get on with it.

The house was eventually requisi-tioned by the Receiver to help pay a huge tax bill and in October 1994, Hull was declared bankrupt.

Savings had to be made and the villa in Portugal also went, along with the Mercedes, the Bentley and the children's private education. A few weeks later, his wife Cher went back to Australia with the children. Rod Hull had hit rock bottom. A friend who worked at the National Trust offered Hull a dilapidated two-bedroom 1810 brick cottage



Hull with Emu, the aggressive blue and yellow bird who made him a household name

near Rye in East Sussex. In 1997 he told the Daily Mail:

told the Daily Mail:

I could live cheaply if I renovated it. I have a much simpler life which I wish I'd discovered long ago. I've written a book of poems (The Reluctant Potel and a novel and I sit in front of a log fire listening to classical music. I'm much more content than I've been for a long time. It's perhaps only when you've gone through what I have that you find true values. It's nothing to do with money, which doesn't buy you happiness, I think I had to go all the way down before I could find this lovely way of life, I just work to meet outgoings. Although I still enjoy performing. I've no more desire to be a success.

Hull received regular visits from his friend Spike Milligan, a near neighbour, enjoyed his beekeeping and played boules for his local pub team. Chainsmoking a pipe, he remained the optimist to the end. In

late 1997, Hull was indeed discharged from bankruptcy and enjoyed something of a revival.

He turned on the Christmas Lights in Leeds and had a successful run in Windsor as Wishee Washee in Aladdin. A Rod Hull lookalike became the butt of a running joke of the alternative comedians Stewart Lee and Richard Herring on their show Fist of Fun. The real Rod Hull appeared in an episode of the BBC2 series to confront Kevin Eldon, his impersonator. Lee and Herring even tried to pull his tufty ginger hair off, to no avail.

Last year, during a feature on GMTV about children's favourites from the Seventies, Rod Hull and his snarling sidekick Emu reprised their mauling act and attacked the show's presenter Lorraine Kelly as Sussex 17 March 1999.

they had Michael Parkinson. Keith Harris and Orville were the

bemused bystanders this time. In February this year, the Conservative Party made an ill-advised attempt to enlist his services, along with those of Jim Davidson, "I'm a Eurosceptic," admitted Hull. "But when it comes to politics, I'm not a member of the Conservative Party and I'm not a fan of William Hague. He doesn't have the drive and vision and he's not showbiz enough for my liking."

PIERRE PERRONE

Rod Hull, television entertainer, born Isle of Sheppey, Kent 13 August 1935; twice married (two sons, three daughters, one stepdaughter); died Winchelsea, East

### Hideo Itokawa

ONE OF Japan's most lovable ec-centrics was a multi-talented aeronautical engineer, Hideo Itokawa. He was a leading figure in the research into and development of the Japanese space programme and was pop-ularly known as "The Father of the Space Rocket".

Like many mathematicians and scientists, he was a passionate lover of the arts, and was a gifted musician who gave professional perfor-mances on the cello. He also played the violin, and even invented his own type of instrument. He adored opera, drama and classical ballet, a discipline he revered so much that he began taking lessons in it at the advanced age of 60.

As an aeronautical engineer, Itokawa was best known for his wartime work in the production of fighter planes. When he was just a schoolboy, he had been deeply impressed by Charles Lindbergh's feat in making a non-stop flight from New York to Paris in the Spirit of St Louis in 1927. From then on, Itokawa

was determined to build planes. He attended Tokyo University, and on graduation, joined what was then known as the Nakajima Airplane Company (now Fuji Heavy Industries Ltd). In those days, Japan was one of the world leaders in aircraft construction, and with the outbreak of war in the Pacific in 1941, production was quickly stepped up. Itokawa helped to design the "Hayabusa" fighter plane, the equal of the better-known "Zerosen" (Zero fighter) made by Mitsubishi Heavy Industries, whose maximum range was 420 nautical miles, considered an outstanding achievement. The Zero was used towards the end of the war in the Kamikaze Special Attack Force on suicide missions against the American fleet.

Itokawa, however, was totally opposed to the kamikaze programme. He detested the idea of using men as death-dealing human robots. Instead, he proposed a pilotiess aeroplane missile, like the Nazi "buzz bombs". But his blueprint of the Hayabusa remained in production.

With the end of the war, the Amercans proceeded with the wholesale dismantling of Japanese aircraft factories. Even Tokyo University's aeronautical department was forced to shut down. The scientists had to turn their skills to other ends, and Itokawa spent several years devising machines for medical purposes.

His abilities in these fields became well known, and he was invited in 1953 to deliver a lecture on his methods in the School of Medicine at Chicago University. While there. he investigated the department's library, and discovered a thesis with the title: "What will happen if a space?" He realised that space flight must be an important part of America's plans, and decided that Japan should get in on the act.

Two years later, he devised the first Japanese solid-propellant fuel rocket, nicknamed the "Pencil Rocket". It was only 23cm in length and was the first step in an increasingly ambitious programme, followed by a "Baby Rocket," the "Kappa" and the "Lambda" models.

In 1964, the Tokyo University Institute of Space and Aeronautical Science (ISAS) was established with Itokawa in charge, and in the same year a Lambda rocket reached height of 1,000km. In 1970, Itokawa supervised an experimental satellite, the "Osumi", making Japan the fourth country to achieve satellite launch capability. ISAS in 1981 became the co-ordinating research centre independent of

Tokyo University. When Itokawa started ballet lessons in 1973, pictures of him at the barre began to appear in magazines. He was often shown surrounded by an adoring corps de ballet. His great moment came five years later when, at the Imperial Theatre in Tokyo, he appeared in Prokofiev's Romeo and Juliet, as Romeo's father. The audience was gobsmacked at the sight of their famous scientist footing it with young dancers a third of his age. A perfect example of the marriage of science and the arts.

Nagano, Japan 21 February 1999.

JAMES KIRKUP Hideo Itokawa, aeronautical engi-neer: born Tokyo 1913; died

### **Stanley Jones**

WILLIAM HAZLITT was perhaps violinist called Dorothea McLaughthe greatest reporter that ever lin. The Second World War interlived. His mind was wide-ranging, his sympathies liberal, and it is fitting that his prime exponent should have been Stanley Jones.

It was said of Jones that, if you asked him, for example, where Hazlitt was at 6pm on 2 May 1812. he would be able instantly to reply that the author was at Charles Lamb's talking to Wordsworth about . Tasso's influence on Spenser. Such specificity may indicate the reputed scholarship of the former Reader in French Language and Literature at Glasgow University. To a wider audience. Stanley Jones may not have been a familiar name, but his single published volume. Hazlitt, a Life: from Winterslow to Frith Street (1989), was a popular success.

Jones was born to a Welsh-speaking nonconformist family. His father was a carpenter employed in industrial processes, and the young Stanley had to make his way through scholarships. His interest in Hazlitt arose, he said, when a Hazlitt essav happened to be the prescribed text the year he became ("proud title") Junior School Fives Champion. He arrived at University College, Cardiff, where English was his primary interest. However, looking impish. he would say. "Do you blame me?" when he spoke of being attracted at the age of 20 by the prospect of studying for a year in Paris.

It was when in Paris again, in 1939, that he met a young Canadian

rupted both his studies and his courtship. He spent the duration mostly in Salisbury, attached to the Intelligence Corps. Stanley resumed his doctoral research, a study of Proust, at Cambridge, but managed to second himself to McGill University for the purpose of marrying Dorothea and hringing her

back to England as a British citizen. Neither Stanley nor his wife wanted to go to Glasgow, which was uncharted territory, but Professor Alan Boase appointed him to a full lectureship in 1947, when such permanent posts were rare. The Joneses remained in Glasgow for the rest of Stanley's life, and brought up three daughters. In his amiable way, Stanley accompanied Dorothea, a cradle Catholic, to Mass each Sunday, and eventually joined her church. That a lifelong nonconformist should, in his last decade, become a Roman Catholic was only part of the

enigma surrounding Stanley Jones. When a brash post-structuralist gave an inaccurate talk on Joyce. Jones asked a colleague sitting near him for a text of Ulysses, unerringly turned to the relevant page, and with characteristic urbanity demolished the speaker's argument. He was a keen opera-goer, and knew the original Italian from which the libretti had - not always satisfactorily - been translated.

It is a mystery that, with his range of scholarship, Jones chose

Renton, the youngest Scottish hos-

pital matron at 34, and went on to

land's leading hospital, the Edin-

hurgh Royal Infirmary (RIE). Then,

just three and a half years later, at

Region Hospitals Board.



only to publish on Hazlitt, and that from the vantage-point of a Department of French. There is no doubt that this caused some consternation in his university. When Jones was found in another department lecturing on his favourite author, an elderly Professor of English was heard to exclaim, "This is impugning our departmental in-tegrity!" Certainly Jones was never accorded the Chair which his

erudition warranted. His final years were warped by the advance of the rheumatoid arthritis that eventually killed him. He was industrious to the end. Friends would receive notes from hospital, written painfully on the obverse of old menus, saying how the leisure of retirement had eluded him.

Ask him where Hazlitt was at 6pm on 2 May 1812, and he would tell you he was at Charles Lamb's talking to Wordsworth about Tasso

"However, life is still full of interest; it would be dreadful to he solicited by nothing at all."

Apart from his biography of Hazlitt, Jones contributed some 50 articles and notes to learned journals. Many of these contain material not to be found in his life of Hazlitt, or, if found there, only in a condensed form. For example, his W.D. Thomas Memorial Lecture of 1981 (pub-lished as The Second Mrs Hozlitt, 1982) gives an account of the research methods employed in ascertaining the background of the second Mrs Hazlitt, Isabella Bridgewater, née Shaw. These are as astonishing as the biographical detail to which they led. It is to be hoped that a university press will bring such dispersed materials together manuscripts for decades before I

in a single book. This would show, began work. On visiting libraries in beyond doubt, that Stanley Jones was not only the godfather of contemporary Hazlitt studies hut also among the most resourceful scholars of his time.

PHILIP HOBSBAUM

No one knew more about the life and works of Hazlitt than Stanley Jones, writes Duncan Wu. But there was nothing dry about him. Stanley combined his passion for things Hazlittian with an equal love for those things which once inspired his hero: good theatre, good wine, good music, and good company.

He had a seemingly indefatigable knowledge of his subject. Ask him how Hazlitt spent his brief time in Glasgow, who he met and what he did, and Stanley would know, usually without consulting his notes. He would astonish by producing such details as how much Hazlitt had spent on his hunch on a particular day. This would be an impressive enough trick in the case of writers whose lives are well documented, hut it was staggering in the case of Hazlitt, of whom so little is recorded.

I came to know Stanley during the three-year period of my editing of Hazlitt's selected writings, for a new edition published earlier this year. All scholarly paths, I discovered, led to his door. It was opened without hesitation. In truth, he should have produced the edition, as he had been examining the extant

America, Canada and the United Kingdom, I always found that Stanley had been there before me. My final visit to him was shortly

before the launch party for my edition. He showed me his collection of photographs of the places in France where Hazlitt had once stayed. He had found, often with the minimum of evidence, Hazlitt's lodgings in the depths of the French countryside, only years, or in one case months, before their demolition. Those photographs comprise important pieces of scholarly evidence

His biography of Hazlitt is a mile-stone in literary studies. Stanley Jones was the first to tell the world about the family from which Hazlitt's second wife came, and provided a vast amount of new evidence about Sarah Walker (with whom Hazlitt fell disastrously in love). He opened up new avenues of research into Hazlitt's relations with other journalists of the day, such as Theodore Hook, Leigh Hunt, and William Gifford. His work has set the agenda for Hazlitt studies for many years

Stanley Llewellyn Jones, French and English scholar, born Swansea 2 March 1916; Lecturer in French Language and Literature. Glasgow University 1947-78, Reader 1978-81; married 1946 Dorothea McLaughlin (three daughters); died Glasgow 11 March 1999.



Quaile: ramrod figure

BARBARA QUAILE was, as Barbara nurses trembled, for she noticed everything. A broken thermometer brought a jecture which so terrified crown her career as mairon of Scot a nurse who damaged a syringe that she went to Boots and spent a considerable portion of her monthly salary on a replacement so she did not have to report the loss.

the age of 53, she left to marry - and become a member of the Western Yet Renton introduced many welcome changes. More domestic help Renton was a typical matron. A on wards, porters to take patients to trim, ramrod figure with steely eyes, theatre and X-rays, student nurses she was in charge of all - maids and relieved of non-nursing duties. She kitchen staff as well as nurses - and was in favour of male nurses, whenever she went on her rounds thought senior staff should be al-

lowed to live out and was a constant advocate of improvements in living conditions for nurses.

Barbara Quaile

She was the second child of an Edinburgh solicitor, David Renton, and a mother who was a member of the Sandeman port family. She entered nurse training at the RIE in 1927. On qualifying she worked at the Kent and Canterbury Hospital, and obtained the diploma of nursing at London University. She returned to Scotland as assistant matron at the Simpson Memorial Maternity Pavil-

World War a 2,000-bed emergency hospital was created at the Bangour Village hospital, near Livingston, and Renton was appointed its matron. In 1945, she was appointed matron of the Victoria Infirmary, Glasgow.

In the wider politics of her profession, Renton was a member of the General Nursing Council for Scotland, became secretary and then president of the Association of Scottish Hospital Matrons and served on the Scottish Board of the Royal College of Nursing. From

**Boards Reconstruction Committee** post-war future of nursing.

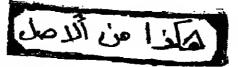
In 1955 Renton returned to the RIE as Lady Superintendent, And then, on linen inventory day, came the surprise announcement - the Lady Superintendent had become engaged and was leaving to marry a Glasgow stockbroker, Kenneth Quaile. There were some errors in

the linea count that day. Barbara Qualle was a music en-

With the outbreak of the Second 1944 to 1948 she served on the thusiast and a member of Milngavie Music Club. She painted in oils until which reported to the parent com- she developed an allergy to the mittee in London looking at the paints, when she turned to watercolours. An inspiring leader and a disciplinarian who expected perfection, she also had a charming and gracious manner.

LAURENCE DOPSON

Ida Barbara Helen Renton, nurse and matron: born Edinburgh 28 March 1906; OBE 1958; married 1958 Kenneth Quaile (died 1975): died Glasgow 15 February 1999.



 $(v_1,v_2) \in \{v_1,v_2,\dots,v_n\}, \lambda$ 

San Carrier

- 7-

garage and a second

-

47 17 T

.- .-

### Lee Falk

"LOTHAR! WE'RE here! Another dimension!" cried Mandrake the Magician without moving his lips. "A world entirely different from our own!" Lother grinned holding hard to his fez. "Well, anyhow, it didn't hurt!"

Mandrake the Magician, considered by some to be the first superhero in the comics, wore an odd costume in comparison with the four-years-younger Superman: a shiny top hat large enough to hold a spare rabbit, a low-cut waist-coat to expose his celluloid dickey, a flow-ing purple cloak, an evening suit with tails, and shiny patent leather pointy shoes. His partner Lothar, a muscle-bound grown in Robin married blue bound grown-up Robin, wearing blue shorts and a semi-strapless leopardskin blouse, was the he-man half of the acthe wore no shoes at all Lothar was the dethroned king of an African tribe.

When Mandrake made his comicbook debut in the cleverly titled Magic Comics no 1 in August 1939, the editor, G. Whiz the Wizard ("Uncle George to you!"), greeted his young readers from his : Wizard's Tower in Washington Square, Philadelphia. "As towers go, it overtowers every other tower you ever saw. It's the north-eastern turret of Mandrake's castle on the south-western corner of our Magic Square. Of course, Mandrake has a castle, though he's not often in it, being so busy adventuring, but he likes to have a resident wizard around in case anything comes up."

Mandrake, of no fixed Christian name. first appeared in a daily newspaper strip on 11 June 1934, Brylcreemed hair never to be disturbed, Ronald Colman moustache neatly pointed, lighting a fresh cigarette that would never ash, and strutting a walking-stick that doubled as a magic wand when required. Modelled on the theatrical conjurors that the young Lee Falk, his creator, worshipped in his boyhood, Mandrake soon used his magical abilities to fight crime, in harness with his partner.

The strip may now be seen as a true pioneer of race equality. Perhaps because Lothar had been a king, Mandrake treated him as an equal at all times, and his speech balloons were never disgraced with the kind of parody dialogue which today'a readers find so offensive in certain of yesterday's comics and movies.

Leon Falk, known as Lee to his chums, was born in St. Louis, Missouri. There seems to be some confusion over the actual year. An encyclopaedia of comics gives it as 1905, but other sources say he was 87 when he died. Falk was a natural, born writer. As soon as be entered high school he began contributing to the college newspaper; poems, articles, stories, all flowed from his pen. After graduating from the University of Missouri he got a job as a copywriter for a St Louis advertising agency. Here he befriended one of the staff artists, Philip Davis, and in time the two were to form a partnership in the

production of Mandrake the Magician. Falk spent a while in local radio as both a producer and a scriptwriter, sound exciting: "Trap of the Wasp", Second-billed was Ace the Wonder Dog York 13 March 1999.

then took time off to visit New York with the rough artwork for Mandrake. No mean artist himself, Falk had sketched the first few strips as samples. King Feathe first lew strips as samples. King rea-tures, the top newspaper strip syndicate, showed interest, but wanted better draw-ings. Rushing home, Falk grabbed Davis and in a few days the polished-up strips were sent to King. They accepted. Originally Mandrake was the perfect.

and perfectly impossible, magician. He could do absolutely anything Falk could dream up: shrink in size, expand to giant proportions, conjure up an instant hunch, vanish from view and reappear on the other side of the world. His first opposition came from the Cobra, a sinister, hooded black-magician whose aim was to rule the world. He reckoned without Mandrake's magic. Wonderful stuff to delight young readers, of course, but certain Christian bodies objected. They did not like miracles being performed by magic. Falk quickly reduced his hero's powers to hypnosis alone. From then on a gesture

Mandrake the Magician was considered by some to be the first comic . superhero. He predated Superman by four years

of Mandrake'a elegant hands would cloud a man's mind so that the victim would totally believe that what he thought he saw was true. There is an answer to every problem, especially if you draw comics.

On the distaff side, Mandrake met Princess Nardia of Cockaigne and duly fell in love despite the fact that she wanted to kill him. It seems Mandrake was warring with her bad brother Segrid at the time, but once that matter was magically sorted, the way was clear for romance, despite the many beauties that our conjurer would encounter in his extremely long and still continuing career.

Phil Davis, working with his wife Martha, drew the series until he died in 1964. She continued womanfully on her own for a while, then the pen was passed to Harold Fredericks, who signed himself simply Fred, Mandrake's operations were now headquartered in the Fortress of Xanadu, but otherwise the magic proceeded as before.

Mandrake entered the movies as the star of his own 12-episode serial produced by Columbia Pictures in 1939. Warren Hull played the magician in lumbia Pictures leapt into action with what was billed as "A Mad Whirl of Tom Tyler, who once played the Leon Fulk, writer and producer born Kikume as Lothar. The chapter titles cartoon hero now on the screen!"



Mandrake the Magician, 1966, Falk's hero's first solo comic book

"Terror Rides the Rails" and "Unseen Monster" are typical.

But one successful strip was not enough for Falk. On 17 February 1936, King Features launched his new strip, the Phantom. Clad in a one piece skintight suit with a hood, plus a tight black eye-mask which revealed a startling lack of pupils, the Phantom was not just a man, he was a living legend, 400 years old. Men called him "The Ghost Who Walks", and he had been walking around the jungles of India since the 16th century. His secret: he was really Christopher Standish, latest in a long line of stalwart sons, who inherited their title and powers from the original Phantom all those hundreds of years ago.

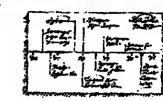
Falk'a artist for the Phantom was another friend from his home fown, Ray Moore drew the simplistic but visually appealing strip until he entered the US Air Force in 1942. The Phantom was then taken over full-time by his former assistant, Wilson McCoy, Once again Hollywood called, and with the banner line "The Most Fantastic, Most Exciting Serial Ever Made". Co-

as Devil, the Phantom's four-legged friend. This was 1943, and some years later, in 1996, a full-length feature film was made of the same title.

. Falk served in the Department of Secret Intelligence, a branch of the Office of War Information, during the Second World War, and later began to write and produce for the theatre. Many of his productions were staged at Nassan in the Bahamas, and he is said to have produced some 300 plays. These included Dame May Whitty in Emlyn Williams's masterpiece, Night Must Fall, and Charlton Heston in Bell Book and Candle. Falk also wrote two musical plays, Happy Dollar and one featuring his top comic-strip hero, Mandrake the Magician and the Enchantress.

In his spare time from mapping out 14 strips every week and writing and producing plays, Falk launched into a series of novels featuring his other hero, the Phantom, Small wonder then that he finally received an international award for his comic strip work at the 1971 Comics Convention in Lucca, Italy.

Murder and Mystery", supported by Al Mummy, billed as "America's favourite St Louis, Missouri 1905; troice married (one son, two daughters); died New



### **HISTORICAL NOTES**

### The relentless tyranny of the sink

DOWN THE ages traditional English laundry skills have always been the preserve of women. Long before the "whiter than white" virtues of Oxydol over Rinso wooed housewives from their copper boilers to the twin tub, there were devices trying to make the weekly wash less timeconsuming and cumbersome.

The first washing machines were primitive affairs: just a barrel or buck with a false bottom and a spigot. Heavy household linens were layered carefully into the buck, propped by sturdy garden twigs that would carry the weight of sodden cloth, allowing the weshing solution to course its way down over cuffs, ruffs and collars, already dipped in Iye. These were placed downwards to catch the force of the detergent. "Leying the buck" was the traditional way of letting nature presoak away gathered grime but the result was only as

good as the lye solution used.

When Celia Fiennes made her intrepid journey on horsehack across Britain in the mid-17th century she saw fit to comment in her diary about the lye-making industry in the forest of Cannock Chase. She observed how the dried ferns were hurned into ashes, mixed with grease and turned into lye balls. These were soaked overright in rainwater: strained through muslin to provide the scouring liquid to be poured over the layered linens in the huck and left to soak through.

Never let it be said that Tudor or Stuart women did not take pride in pristine linen. Only the most destitute did not attempt some handscrubbing. Even a modest household was judged by the freshness of its linen. Whiteness was achieved by bleaching agents such as sunshine and urine. Ready-bleached fabrics were the sign of wealth

and prestige, so any tricks to upgrade the whiteness of a collar were eagerly sought. It was to the garden that the thrifty housewife resorted to find other lye solutions made from burnt hen or pigeon dung, wild flowers. Here were found the sticks and props to stretch out the linens to dry, taut in the wind and sun. Brides were presented with specially cut sticks to dry out nappies in anticipation of a happy event.

Then there was the whole process of soapmaking. The placing of the tanning yards were usually on the outskirts of a town, close to a water supply but downstream to ease the stench. Grease scraped from carcasses was rendered and boiled into a stinking lye by the soapmakers. Thrifty housewives also rendered their own version of household soap using fats mixed with traditional herbs like lavender.

The fashion for ruffs and stiff linen collars was a high laundry priority and the process of sizing and starching fabric an art in itself. There was often rivalry to

produce the most efficacious lye rinses from bran water and ground hoof-parings. Each following generation found natural means to improve their fabrics; a strained potato water to cleap silk, a tealeaf rinse for linens, sugar and water to stiffen paper

nvion petticoats. The price of cleanliness could be more costly than mere chapped hands. Parish records record the deaths of young girls; drowned fetching water from well and swollen stream, scalded by burning fat or splashings of lye, young children poisoned by drinking detergent. Who knows how many backs were put out of joint by the lifing of sodden loads.

A few remaining relics of original "bucks" may be found in bijou gardens. For nearly a hundred years this monument to 19th-century endeavour ruled supreme: queen of every wash-house in the urban backyard, with broadrollers like some ample heaving bosom out of which churned the weekly wash flattened to a cardboard.

Washing has been one of the most relentless of bousehold duties. Homespun hempen cloth was heavy and tempting to ignore until ripe and fruity. The invention of mechanical "bucks" in the 20th century surely has done much to liberate women from the tyranny of the sink?

Helene Wiggin is author of In the Heart of the Garden' (Flame, £6.99)

### **GAZETTE**

### BIRTHS, **MARRIAGES** & DEATHS

#### DEATHS

MILLER SMITH: Dorothy, died peacefully at home, as she lived, with her family. Wife of Charles, mother of Nicholas, Caroline and Flona, and grandmother of Emily, Funeral service at St. Michoel's, Chester Square, SW1. on Friday 26 March 1999, at 2.30pm for family and friends. Family flowers only but donations, if desired, to Action against Breast Cancer, C2 Culham Science Centre. tions, it tests to the control of th

WILLIS: On 16 March, suddenly WILLIS: On 16 March, suddenly after a long illness Frank. 51. formerly of the ITC. Funeral service on 24 March at St Maryle-bone Crematorium, East End Road, N2, at 2.30pm. No flowers please, donations to Edea Hall Marie Curic Centre, cto Leverton and Sons Ltd. 0181-444 5753.

#### IN MEMORIAM

ROMNENOVIC: It is one year white most tender feelings with the most tender feelings we remember the love, support and protection he Livished upon us all his life. His devoted family.

#### ROYAL **ENGAGEMENTS**

The Queen presents a new Soveregin's Bunner to RMA Sandhanti at Bucksaghan Palare-The Debte of Edinbough, Presider Envertion, WWP international (World Wide Pand for Nature), visua the Sangha vegon of the Central African Republic.

CHANGING OF THE GUARD The Household Cavalry Mounted Regiment Sounds the Queen's Life Guard at Horse

#### **BIRTHDAYS**

Miss Ursula Andress,

actress, 63; Sir Nigel Broomfield, former ambassador to Germany, 62; Miss Glenn Close, actress, 52; Lady Georgina Coleridge, journalist, 83; Professor Ronald Girdwood, former president, Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh, 82; The Right Rev Ronald Gordon, former Bishop of Lambeth, 72; Mr Bryan Hildrew. former managing director, Lloyds Register of Shipping, 79; Vice-Admiral Sir Norman King, former chairman, Buckinghamshire Health . Authority, 66; Sir David Lamsden, former principal, Royal Academy of Music, 71: Sir Peter Masefield, aviation authority, 85; Lord Plant of Highfield, Master, St Catherine's College, Oxford, 54; Lt-Gen Sir Alan Reay, Chief Hon Steward, Westminster Abbey, 74; Mr Philip Roth, novelist, 66; Mr Bruce Willis, actor, 44; Miss Mary Wimbush, actress, 75; Mr William Winfield, Headmaster, Mill Hill School, 52.

### ANNIVERSARIES

Births: Georges de la Tour, painter, 1593; Tobias George Smollett, physician and writer, 1721; Charles Watson Wentworth, second Marquis of Rockingham, statesman, 1730; Dr David Livingstone, explorer and missionary, 1813; Johannes Josephus Herman Verhulst, composer and conductor, 1816; Sir Richard Francis Burton, scholar and explorer, 1821; Albert Pinkham Ryder, painter, 1847; William Jennings Bryan, politician, 1860;

#### founder of Diaghilev ballet company, 1872; Max Reger, teacher and composer, 1873; Sir John Hubert Marshall, archaeologist, 1876; Joseph Albers, abstract painter and

Sergei Pavlovich Diaghilev,

poet, 1888. Deaths: Thomas Killigrew, playwright, 1683; René Robert Cavelier, Sieur de la Salle, explorer, murdered by his own men in Texas 1687; Thomas William Daniell, landscape painter, 1840; Mary Anning, finder of Ichthyosaurus fossil, 1847; William Henry Playfair, architect, 1857; Friedrich Wilhelm Schadow-Godenhaus, painter, 1862; George Richmond, painter, 1896; Antoine-Thomson d'Abbadie, explorer and scientist, 1897; Arthur James Balfour, first Earl Balfour, statesman, 1930; Edgar Rice Burroughs, novelist and Gheorghe Gheorghiu-Dej, Romanian prime minister, 1965; Stephen Graham, travel writer, 1975; Faith Cuthrell Baldwin, romantic novelist, 1978; Alan Badel, actor, 1982.

White formed the New England Company in Massachusetts Bay, 1628; the US Senate refused to ratify the Versailles Treaty and the League of Nations Covenant. 1920; the opera Foust by Gounod was performed in Paris for the first time, 1859; Sydney Harbour bridge was officially opened, 1932; follow ing an internal dispute, British parachute troops took over the Caribbean island of Anguilla, 1969; Willy Brandt and Willi Stook heads of West and East Germany, met for the first time

On this day: the Rev John

at Erfurt, 1970; during a severe gale, the 1,260-foot television mast at Emley Moor, Yorkshire, crashed to the ground, 1970; the first London performance of the musical show On the Twentieth Century was staged, 1980.

Today is the Feast Day of St Alcmund, prince of Northumbria, St John of Panaca, St Joseph (husband of the Virgin) and St Landoald.

#### LECTURES

National Gallery: Colin Wiggins, "Cats and Dogs (iii): Constable, Salisbury Cathedral from the Meadows".

Victoria and Albert Museum: Ann Peerless "Stories in Indian Art (ii)".

Tate Gallery: Tim Marlow, "Jackson Pollock: untangling the web", 1pm. British Museum: Mike Cowell. "Science and Money", 11.30am; Paul Craddock, Black Bronzes: the alchemist's gold", 1pm; Duncan Franklin, "Technologies of Ancient China", 2pm. Wallace Collection London W1: "Irène Logan, "Maiolica in the Wallace Collection", 1pm

#### DINNERS

Chester Business Club Mr John Monks, General Secretary, Trades Union Congress, was guest of honour and principal speaker at a Chester Business Club dinner held yesterday evening at Abbots Well Hotel, Chester Mr Martin Seed

Club Chairman, presided. Mr Tom Hunt, Club Vice-President and Mr Boh Clough-Parker, Club Secretary, also spoke.

**Durham University** Sir Bobert May, Chief Government Scientific Officer was the guest speaker at **Durham University Society** of Fellows 17th Annual Dinner, held yesterday at the College of St Hild and St Bede, Durham. Professor Michael Prestwich, President of the Society of Fellows, was the host. Among the guests were:

Professor Str Benneth Cahman, Vice-Chancellor and Warden, Duristin Uni-versity; Mr and Mrs Derek Young, the Mayor and Mayoress of Durham; The Very Bew John Arnold, Dean of Durham and Mrs Arnold; Sir Frederick Holliday, Chairman of Northambrian Water and former Vice-Chancellor and Warden of Dorham University.

#### COLLEGE OF LAW

The Governors of the College of Law have appointed Mr Rodger Pannone to be their Chairman, in succession to Sir Derek Bradbeer.

#### SYNAGOGUE **SERVICES**

Details of synagogue services to be held tomorrow may be obtained by telephon ing the following. Sabbath begins in London at 5.57pm. Degris in London at 5.57pm.
United Synagogues: 0181-343
8989. Federation of Synagogues: 0181-202 2263. Union of Liberal and Progressive Synagogues: 0171-580 1663.
Reform Synagogues of Great Britain: 0181-343 4731. Spanish and Portuguese Jews Congregation: 0171-289 2573. New Lendon Synagogue (Masorii): 0171-328 1026.

### Court had power to grant ancillary relief

IN THE absence of express language in an arbitration clause, the court was not deprived of jurisdiction to grant ancillary relief such as a Mareva injunction in support of arbitration proceedings.

The Court of Appeal discharged an ex porte Morevo injunction which had been granted to the plaintiffs to protect their claim to a contingency fee under a retainer agreement with the defendant.

The defendant sought to challenge her father'a will by bringing proceedings against other members of her family in the foreign country in which she lived. She entered into a retainer with a leading firm of lawyers in that country on the basis of a contingency fee. The beneficiaries of her father's estate agreed to settle her claim for a very large sum of money. The completion took place in London, and the money was paid into an account in Jersey. The lawyers feared that they would not be paid their fee, and brought proceedings in England for, inter alia, a Morevo injunction over the proceeds of

the settlement. They were grapted an exporte injunction. The retainer agreement contained an English law and London arbitration clause. The defendant applied to have the Mareva injunction discharged and to stay the proceedings for arbitration. She argued that the court lacked all jurisdiction to grant a Mareva injunction because the parties had agreed that all disputes deriving from their agreement, including a dispute relating to such an anciliary remedy, should be within the exclusive jurisdiction of

the arbitral tribunal, and that in

### FRIDAY LAW REPORT

19 MARCH 1999

Re O's Estate Queen's Bench Division, Commercial Court (Mr Justice Rix) 12 March 1999

any event the lawyers had failed to show a real risk that she would not pay any award against her.

Nicholas Hamblen QC (Ince & Co) for the plaintiffs; Thomas Beazley (Peters & Peters) for

Mr Justice Rix said that section 44 of the Arbitration Act 1996 confirmed that the court had the same power of making orders in relation to arbitral proceedings about, inter alia. the preservation of evidence and the granting of an interim injunction as it had in relation to legal proceedings "unless

otherwise agreed by the parties". It was submitted for the defendant, relying on Mantovani v Caparelli [1978] 2 Lloyd's Rep 63, that the parties had "otherwise agreed" because the words in the arbitration clause "any dispute deriving [from] or in connection with" the retainer agreement embraced a dispute as to the granting of a

Mareva agreement Mantovani v Caparelli was not, however, authority for the proposition that ancillary proceedings in the courts were always a breach of an arbitration clause, merely that they were

in that particular case by rea-son of the wide language of the arbitration clause in question. In the absence of similar language the court was not deprived of jurisdiction to grant a Mareva injunction in support of arbitration between the parties

to the proceedings. Furthermore, the use of the word "exclusive" in the arbitration clause was merely intended to underline the general rule that substantive proceedings had to be by way of arbitration, rather than to introduce the exceptional situation where the parties were barred from ancillary proceedings in court. Had the parties wanted to exclude the right to resort to the court under section 44 of the 1996 Act for assistance in ancillary matters, they could and

specific wording. The court did not, therefore lack jurisdiction to make a Mareva in the present case, but declined to do so on the merits.

should have done so by more

A plaintiff could not obtain a Mareva injunction before his cause of ection had accrued. In the present case, counsel had informed the court the day before the completion of the settlement of the defendant's claim that he would be seeking an injuction, i.e. before the plaintiffs' cause of action for their contingency fee bad materialised. It had been possible to grant the injunction on the following day, with counsel's assurance that the completion had taken place and that nothing material had otherwise changed. That procedure, athough unorthodox, was none

the less valid. KATE O'HANLON. Barrister

IN ANGLESEY I once asked a waitress what the "mixed vegetables" were. She said, "They're mixed vegetables" and I still puzzle; and boggle at the Brighton restaurant Peppers' "medley of vegetables". This is pithily defined by Johnson as "a mingled mass. It is commonly used with some

degree of contempt." (Re-

#### WORDS CHRISTOPHER

HAWTREE medley, n.

straint itself compared with one'a seeing that Harvester describes a pudding as "play-fully stabbed with walnuts".) How refeshing to leave

scribed by the 14-year-old Macaulay: it "is a rare medley; - Generals, and Drummers, and Deserters, and bathing-women, and Peeresses, and Quakers, and masters, and misses, and Sailors, are taking the air perpetually in its walks." No diesel fumes for them.

cavernous Peppers and

walk to the Steine, as de-

Post Gazette announcements to the Gazette Editor, The Independent, telephone 0171-293 2012 124-hour answering machine 0171-293 2011) or fax to 0171-293 2010. Please give a daytime telephone number.

anc value) £12,633.00. APR 8.4%. Further charges may be made \$3.75. Total charge for credit £2,435.25 (includes a finance facility fee of £70, payable with the first mileage/condition if the vehicle is returned at the end of the finance agreement. Written quotations

### Frank Bruno and the art of bagel making

THE FRENETIC industry of the all-night bagel shop was only brought to a halt by Frank Bruno. The shop, at the top of Brick Lane in London's East End, reaches its weekly climax at about four o'clock on Sunday morning. Because anyone going out for a bagel at that time is certain to be at least slightly interesting. Dull suburban couples, for instance, wouldn't survive the strain were one partner to suggest that "This week dear, instead of Sunday afternoon at the Harvester, why don't we go to a bagel shop at

four in the morning?". The flamboyant and colourful clientele remain constantly jovial, undisturbed by the abuse doled out by late-night curry house yobs. "Creeeam cheeeese," screamed the campest akinhead dressed in rubber I'd ever seen. "Whack us a pair of tunas," said the hard bloke behind him. Then came a pair of coppers, and a couple who must have been to a fancy dress

party, him as Oscar Wilde and her in a 1920s Charleston outfit. If a Red Indian had come in, this queue could have earned a fortune as a Village People tribute band

The bagel itself is a traditional Jewisb roll, sweet, with a bole in the middle, filled with smoked salmon, herring or other, more gentile, fillings. In the back half of the shop, the process of making them entertains the queueing customers. Sweating, agile artists rapidly but delicately hrush each bagel before swinging a tray carrying 60 of them into a huge oven, while their colleagues knead enormous blocks of dough, and everyone shouts at each other across the clattering of bagelrelated accessories.

This never slows down, even during quiet periods, and you wonder whether it's an addiction: and whether, on their days off. the bagel-makers stay at home slamming their oven door shut, chucking Polos into trays, and

yelling "MORE DOUGH", at passing strangers.

In the corner, chomping on a slice of salt beef, was Douglas." Chunks of bagel were spilling through vast gaps in his teeth on to his crumbling black coat. He was Scottish and had worked on the oil rigs for several years but had to leave when he became disabled. He now lives in a homeless person's unit. "Usually ah come here in the afternoon, he said. "Ah get here at four, and stay until midnight. I've nothing else to do, have I? They always see me all right for bagels."

But today was different. He was here at night, to listen to the radio commentary of the fight at Madison Square Garden between Holyfield and Lewis. In the moments before it began he was joined by Reg, who'd come off a night shift on the Underground, and the three of us moved as close as we could to the crackly sound of Frank Bruno imparting his expert analysis.

"Lewis is making this look so

MARK STEEL



LOCATION

easy, he's a dangerous dude," said Frank. "He's walking it," he enthused after each round. "He's walking it," said Reg and Douglas to everyone who asked. "He'a scoring so many points with his jabs," said Bruno. "He'a scoring so many points with his jabs," said the little man serving esecake one minute later to a pair of lads on their way home from a rave.

Once every two rounds, the tempo of commentary would increase, along with a surge of

ringside yelling. We'd all stretch an inch nearer to the radio, and at that moment the woman in the corner would turn on the breadslicing machine, which clattered like a fruit machine coughing out a jackpot - you could shut your eyes and imagine you were in a steelworks.

\*Pleeceease, can't you do it between rounds," we'd plead, but she just looked puzzled and carried on.

The fight ended. "Lewis is easily the champion," said Frank, and everyone agreed. But we hadn't seen a thing; we only had Frank's word for it. For all we knew, Holyfield had spent the whole fight pinging Lewis's nose with an elastic band, while Lewis yelped, "Ow, stop it, that hurts."

"It was much closer than you seem to think," said a British journalist to Bruno, "Rubbish," shouted Reg and Douglas. And then the verdict; the infamous draw. "Well they were watching a different fight to me," screeched the little man behind the counter.

"To be fair, we didn't see it," I interjected pathetically: "Ye can tell by listening tae the radio." spat Douglas.

But now Bruno was on a roll. It was disgraceful, scandalous, shameful, appalling. To break up the adjectives, he actually said "know what I mean". And then he went for a big finish. "That Holyfield is a man who believes in God. So be must look in the mirror and say to himself, 'as night is night and day is day.

Lord, I know I lost that fight'.' Suddenly the regular kledankkledank of trays in ovens was interrupted. "That Bruno." screamed an Italian baker slamming down the tray of bagels he was brushing with oil, "he talk a-nothing but aheet!!".

And be sat down for the first time in at least two hours and howled with laughter in an Italian accent. This brought the whole bagel-making process to a halt, creating a log-jam of dough and stacked-up trays.

And it was all a touch ironic.

Because the last time British people thought there was about to be a British world heavyweight champion was just before Bruno fought Tyson. Then Bruno was chumped on to the floor in the third round, and we all suddenly thought, how did we fool ourselves? This was Iron Savage Penitentiary Terminator Crocodile Tyson - against

Buttons from Cinderella. Which leads me to the sad declaration that this was the last of these visits, as I'm supposed to be writing a book and a radio series, both of which take bloody ages. But I would like to thank this newspaper for giving me the chance to write these pieces, and the readers who've read them.

What they've confirmed for me is that while the class divisions which shape our society are enormously complex, give or take a few grey areas and exceptions, working-class people are creative, positive, amiable, humble and unselfish. And the rich are ignorant pigs. Ta ra.

A university library needs funds. What to do? Sell the books, of course. By Oliver Swanton

### Lost pages of history

ooks were Charles Friends of the eccentric senior civil servant recall bow he often went with out life's hoxuries. including winter coats, to buy them. His collection of early maths books and manuscripts covered every conceivable surface in his top-floor flat in Wimbledon, London. "There was no dining-room or lounge," remembers David Ingram, a retired professor, who admired the books as a boy. The whole flat seemed to be an extended part of his library. "I was always rather surprised by

the frugal nature of his life. There was little cutlery in his flat and be didn't seem to eat much. It was a rather austere existence."

Over 50 years Turner diligently amassed 1,400 works, including eight from Newton's own library."[It] gave one a sense of being part of the march of time," says Ingram. "Handling the very books great mathematicians like Newton and Galileo had once owned was magical. To discover their scribbled notes and additions to calculations truly brought the subject alive."

To understand mathematics there's no substitute for reading the words of the great masters, says David Singmaster, a retired profes-sor. "Reproductions and facsimiles do not encourage a personal connection with the past. And, even if they did, no matter what people say these things just aren't being digitised; it's expensive, it takes a long time and nobody's got any money.

In 1968. Turner determined to leave his rare and valuable collection to future generations. He wanted his act of benevolence to help build the prestige of "a university library that had not had the opportunity or good fortune to acquire such an important special collection", be told his friend. Keele University. where Ingram taught physics, was just the kind of red-brick institution Turner had in mind. In appreciation Keele awarded Turner an honorary degree and organised a handingover ceremony at which Princess Margaret, then chancellor of the university, thanked him in person.

Thirty years later, Keele University has unceremoniously sold the Turner Collection for £1m. After years of hudget cuts they needed funds to invest in library materials.

Contrary to the university's statement last November, the books are likely to leave the country: the London book dealer Simon Finch, one of at least three dealers known to be associated with the sale, has applied for several export licences.

The university's decision to sell was far from clear-cut. Debate in academic senate during June last year was heated. By a slim majority representatives voted not to sell. Staff at Keele thought that was the end of the matter, but on 26 June the university's smaller ruling council - responsible, together with the Vice-Chancellor for day to day management - made a rare and controversial decision to ignore the will of senale on a major issue. A commercial offer of £1m was already on the table. Within 10 days the hooks had been removed from the library.

The books' likely destination is the United States, where there is massive demand for early works - and where the British antiquarian book dealer Simon Finch has done lucrative business in the past. The Internet revolution has made millionaires



Rare books such as these fetch high prices in the United States where there is massive demand for early works Glynn Griffiths

overnight. With high disposable incomes and a natural interest in all things mathematical they're driving the price of early works to unprecedented levels: a first edition of Newton's Principia Mathematica recently went for \$300,000 (£185,000) at auction in New York, while an Archimedes manuscript fetched \$2.2m last October

The secrecy of the sale of the Turner collection is surpassed only by the secrecy surrounding the export of works of art. The Department for Culture would neither confirm nor deny that applications for export licences had been made or granted. Furthermore, when the Shadow culture secretary. Peter Ainsworth, tabled a written question in the House of Commons, it became clear that the Government does not know the "exact present location" of the Turner Collection.

"It is disgraceful and astonishing that an important collection of this kind can simply disappear," says Ainsworth. There is an air of mystery surrounding the export of collections and works of art that needs to be dispelled. This is far from an isolated case and it is clear that reform is of great urgency."

Critics believe that the Turner Collection was undersold - it included all three editions of Newton's Principia and a copy of Galileo'a Il Saggiatore... of 1625, which Galileo had extensively annotated. "Newton's books alone," asserts Singmaster, "could have fetched film at auction." Senior academics at Keele. with the support of four local MPs. are demanding an internal enquiry

into the affair. A spokeperson for the university, however, maintains that the sale price was a fair one. They declined to specify which, if any major national antiquarian book-selling company, international firm of

eers or other specialists the university might have consulted for advice and valuations. The London Mathematical Society the British Society for the History of Mathematics, the British Society for the History of Science and the British Library all maintain that they were not consulted about the sale.

Keele stands by its decision to sell. Turner attached no strings to his gift, says a spokesperson. The collection was theirs to sell and in doing so they have broken no laws: besides, they say, the books were



of many computer geeks almost Princess Margaret formally receives Charles Turner's bequest

little-used and far from unique. A statement from the university said: "The university received assurances at the point of sale that the collection would remain intact and in Britain and available to scholars." Senior academics at Keele, with

the support of four local MPs, will this week demand an internal enquiry into the affair. The British Library has already demanded (and obtained) the return of a £10,000 grant made to the university for rebinding the books. Meanwhile, the chairman of the Museums & Galleries Commission, James Joll, has called for urgent reform of the "unsatisfactory legal status" of collec-tions and objects donated to public bodies. Universities, he added, cannot simply regard such collections as private assets to be sold off at will to the highest bidder.

At least three book dealers have been associated with the sale -Robert Downie, Daniel McDowell and Simon Finch. No written assurances about the collection's destiny were made. Keele would not comment on whether it believed conditions of sale had been breached. or whether it plans to act to stop the books leaving Britain. It is not the university's decision to sell per se that has angered critics, but that the collection was sold to a dealer, not another British public institution, to ensure that the collection remained part of the nation's stock of wealth

and accessible by scholars. Keele University council minutes of 28 June record that the sale was agreed in principle, "following further investigations of the options". Yet within 10 days the books had been removed from library

shelves. The unversity maintains the books were offered to other public bodies, but declines to specify which Oxford University, Cambridge University, the Royal Society, the Royal Astronomical Society and the

in early mathematical works. Keele had not offered the collection, in part or whole, to them

Dr David McKitterick, chief librarian at Trinity College, Cambridge, where Newton was an undergraduate says: "firm would not have been an impossible sum to find. Some libraries would have worked extremely hard to pay."

Of futher concern is the disappearance from Keele University library of an additional 200 books, known as the With Turner Collection. The fact that the supplementary collection might be included in the sale is not mentioned in minutes of either the university's senate or its council. The books were never part of the Turner bequest, but were bought with public funds and intended for the use of Keele staff and students.

At least one of the books, complete with Keele University Library's embossed stamp, has surfaced in New York, purchased on the Internet from Robert Downie. Downie, a graduate of Keele who has done regular business with the university, maintains that the With Turner Collection was "all part of the arrangement of the sale".

Keele is not the first university to cash in. Despite widespread protests the University of Manchester sold 97 magnificent medieval and Renaissance books and manuscripts in April 1988. Although the books - which fetched £1,838,760 at Sotheby'a - were duplicates, Lord Strabolgi, Labour arts spokesman at the time, revealed that in every case the university had chosen to sell the better copy of each pair held. MPs, peers and academics warned that the university was setting a dan-

gerous precedent. The only good thing to come out of the sale is that the culture secretary, Chris Smith, has undertaken to review the export laws. Sadly, it may be too late for Charles British Library all have an interest. Turner's precious legacy.

### In defence of civil divorce

What could be more miserable than an acrimonious marriage? By Sophie Radice

laden news that divorce was a terrible threat to children. Couples, according to Tory leader William Hague, should stay together. Divorce is altogether too easy, and marriage really is the ideal.

Coming from a family of three generations of official marital breakdown (grandparents, parents, aunts and uncles and my sister and I have all been divorced), I have to protest against the notion that divorce is the greatest social problemfaced by our children. That dubious prize must go to parental unhappiness in all its forms. We all know about the emotional pain of divorce, the loss of bope for the parents and the confusion for the children, because it is a public admission of failure that the morally smug can point he finger at. But what of the kind of insidious acrimony that is buried deep within the stay-together-for-the-

sake-of-the-children families? There are no statistics, reports or surveys on the pervasive long-term effect on children of terminally unhappy parents, because it is impossible to gauge. How can you judge the disadvantages of a particular marriage? It is much easier to judge

the general disadvantage of divorce. In his family law policy, Lord Irvine of Lairg seeks to offer counselling to married couples, and the Government pledges to spend £3m on grants to marriage support and research agencies. Although Lord Irvine realises that divorce is never an easy option, he also seems to understand that some marital problems are insurmountable. Sensibly, he wants couples to turn to mediation as a much healthier and cheaper action then litigation: "Scoring points off each other and paying lawyers to do it comes out of money

THIS WEEK we heard the doom- are concerned. He sobered up and realised bow much he has missed out. He takes them every weekend and picks them up from school and brings them bome a couple of times a week. He now has the experience of being responsible for the children over quite long periods of time.

We go to all parents' evenings and school events together and I know the children are secure in the fact that we are utterly committed to them. His involvement is far more regular and organised and I am much happier because I no longer feel like a doormat."

I would argue that civilised splits, which have the uncanny knack of making the parents concentrate their efforts on the welfare of their children, are actually less rare than one thinks. As the terrifyingly pertect Penelope Leach says: "Nobody would bring a child into the world intending to face him with such disruption but, if you do not have the power to prevent it, you do have the power to see him through it, so don't waste unnecessary energy on feeling that you have failed him. You will only have done so if, between you. he loses out on love."

My vast family of step-sisters, halfbrothers, step-step-aunts and adopted cousins is probably as far removed from the "Janet and John" ideal of the small unbroken family unit as you can get. My Gran (who may well have started the whole thing off by leaving my grandfather in the Forties) looks around in amazement at family gatherings and says: "My family is the most extraordinary mix of race, religion and class that I have ever seen."

Part of her loves to rebel against the claustrophobic social mores of her family, who no doubt disapproved when she fell in love with



Sophie Radice with her children

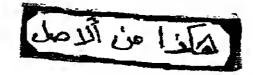
that should go towards building new lives and the lives of children." His policy seems to recognise that people will still split up and that no amount of disapproval from the long-term married is going to change that. What is important is not to concentrate on making divorcing couples feel like bad parents, but to help them make arrangements that will allow them to be good parents despite the circumstance

And it is possible. Katey Robertson has a son and a daughter aged four and seven. She split up with her bushand a couple of years ago because she found it impossible to live with his temper, beavy drinking and his willingness to leave all of the caring of the children to her. "I was utterly miserable and he hated living with me, but as a couple living apart

we are doing really well. "My leaving gave my ex-husband a real shock as far as the children

another man all that time ago. She is best friends with her ex-daughterin-law, as well as being a source of love and support not only to her own grandchildren, but to her stepdaughter's daughter, her stepson's son and her stepson's adopted son's ex-wife - to name but a few. It is a messy tribe. Within our family there is a lot of evidence that within marriage (sorry, Gran) shit happens.

Having said all this, the state of marriage remains an ideal. My parents both remarried very happily and last year I married a man who is also a product of two generations of divorce. When the best man - my new brother-in-law (himself recently divorced) - got up to make a speech, he looked around at the guests, and instead of muttering something about hope over experience, sighed and opened his speech with: "Did you know that 10 out of 10 divorces start with marriage?" Quite.



-

if items intend differ intends in ideal

##

-

يراندور)

经分类量

ے جا بھے تھے۔

September 1999

article.

RID W. ELL WILL

Can molecules communicate with each other, exchanging information without being in physical contact? French biologist Jacques Benveniste believes so, but his scientific peers are still sceptical. By Lionel Milgrom

acques Benveniste was once considered to be one of France's most respected biologists, until he was cast adrift from the scientific mainstream. His downfall began in 1988 when he infuriated the scientific community with experimental results which he took as evidence to suggest that water has a memory. His ideas were seized upon by homeopaths keen to find support for their theories on highly diluted medicines, but were condemned by scientific purists. Now, Berryeniste believes he has evidence to suggest that it may one day be possible to transmit the curative power of life saving drugs around the world - via the Internet.

It sounds like science fiction and Benveniste will have a hard time convincing a deeply sceptical world that be is right. Nevertheless, he began his campaign last week when he announced the latest research to come out of his Digital Biology Laboratory near Paris, to a packed audience of scientists at the Pippard Lecture Theatre at Cambridge University's Cavendish Physics Laboratory. Benveniste suggested that the specific effects of biologically active molecules such as adrenalin, nicotine and caffeine, and the immunological signatures of viruses and bacteria, can be recorded and digitised using a computer sound-card. A keystroke later, and these signals can be winging their way across the globe, courtesy of the Internet, Biological systems far away from their activating molecules can then - he suggested - be triggered simply by playing back the recordings.

Most scientists have dismissed Benveniste as being on the fringe. although there were some famous names in the audience last week, inchiding Sir Andrew Huxley, Nobel laureate and past president of the Royal Society, and the physicist Professor Brian Josephson, also a Nobel laureate. Benveniste started by asking some apparently childish questions. If molecules could talk, specifically, can we eavesdrop on their conversations, record them, and play them back? The answer to these last three questions is, according to Benveniste, a resounding "Oui!" He further suggested that these "recordings" can make molecules respond in the same way as they do when they react. Contradicting the way biologists think biochemical reactions occur, he claims molecules do not have to be in close proximity to affect each other. "It's like listening to Pavarotti or Elton John," Benveniste explained. "We hear the sound and experience emotions, whether they're live or on CD."

For example, anger produces adrenalin. When adrenalin molecules bind to their receptor sites, they set off a string of biological events that, among other things, make blood vessels contract. Biologists say that adrenalin is acting as a molecular signalling device but, Benveniste asks, what is the real nature of the signal? And how come the adrenalin molecules specifically target their receptors and no others, at effect, as it was later known, proved



Jacques Benveniste: many say his ideas are heretical and misguided

incredible speed? According to Benveniste, if the cause of such biochemical events were simply due to random collisions between adrenalin molecules and their receptors (the currently accepted theory of molecular signalling), then it should take longer than it does to get angry.

noire of the French scientific establishment back in 1988, when a paper he had published in the science journal Nature was later rubbished by the then editor. Sir John Maddox, and a team that included a professional magician, James Randi. With an international group of scientists from Canada, France Israel and Italy, Benveniste had claimed that vigorously shaking water solutions of an antibody could evoke a biological response, even when that antibody was diluted out of existence. Non-agitated solutions produced little or no effect. Nature said that the results of the experiment that produced the "ghostly antibodies" were, frankly, unbelievable. The journal itself came in for

criticism for publishing the paper in the first place. In his Nature paper, Benveniste reasoned that the effect of dilution and agitation pointed to transmission of biological information via some molecular organisation going on in water. This "memory of water"

Benveniste's academic undoing. For deterred, he and his now-depleted while the referees of his Nature paper could not fault Benveniste's experimental procedures, they could not understand his results. How, they asked, can a biological system respond to an antigen when no molecules of it can be detected in

research team somehow continued to investigate the biological effects of agitated, highly dilute solutions. The latest results are, for biologists, even more incredible than those in the 1988 Nature paper. Physicists, however, should have less of a probcepted "lock-and-key" principle, fields (eg gravitational, electrowhich states that molecules must be magnetic) which have well-estab-

Benveniste believes that water can memorise and amplify the signals of molecules that have been diluted out of existence

in contact and structurally match before information can be exchanged. Such thinking has dominated the biological sciences for more than four decades, and is itself rooted in the views of the 17th-century French philosopher René Descartes.

Nature's attempted debunking exercise failed to find evidence of fraud, but concluded that Benveniste's research was essentially unreproducible, a claim he has always denied. From being a respected figure in the French biological establishment, Benveniste was pilloried, losing his government funding and his laboratory. Un-

lished long-range effects. If Benveniste's claims prove to be true - which is far from certain - they could have profound consequences.

not least for medical diagnostics. Benveniste's explanation starts innocuously enough with a musical analogy. Two vibrating strings close together in frequency will produce a "beat". The length of this beat increases as the two frequencies approach each other. Eventually, when they are the same, the beat disappears. This is the way musicians tune their instruments, and Benveniste uses the analogy to explain his water-memory theory. Thus, all Raphael Gaillarde

molecules are made from atoms which are constantly vibrating and emitting infrared radiation in a highly complex manner. These infrared vibrations have been detected for years by scientists, and are a vital part of their armoury of methods for identifying molecules.

complexity of their infrared vibrations, molecules also produce much lower "beat" frequencies. It turns out that these beats are within the human audible range (20 to 20,000 Hertz) and are specific for every different molecule. Thus, as well as radiating in the infrared region, molecules also broadcast frequencies in the same range as the human voice. This is the molecular signal that Benveniste detects and records.

If molecules can broadcast, then they should also be able to receive. The specific broadcast of one molecular species will be picked up by another, "tuned" by its molecular structure to receive it. Benveniste calls this matching of broadcast with reception "co-resonance", and says it works like a radio set. Thus, when you tune your radio to, say, Classic FM, both your set and the transmitting station are vibrating at the same frequency. Twitch the dial a little, and you're listening to Radio

1: different tuning, different sounds. This, Berveniste claims, is how millions of biological molecules man-

age to communicate at the speed of light with their own corresponding molecule and no other. It also explains why minute changes in the structure of a molecule can profoundly alter its biological effect. It is not that these tiny structural changes make it a bad fit with its biological receptor (the classical lock-and-key approach). The struc-tural modifications "detune" the molecule to its receptor. What is more, and just like radio sets and receivers, the molecules do not have

cation to take place. So what is the function of water in all this? Benveniste explains this by pointing out that all biological reactions occur in water. The water molecules completely surround every other molecule placed among them. A single protein molecule, for example, will have a fan club of at least 10,000 admiring water molecules. And they are not just hangers on. Benveniste believes they are the agents that in fact relay and amplify the biological signal coming from the original molecule.

to be close together for communi-

It is like a CD which, by itself, cannot produce a sound but has the means to create it etched into its surface. In order for the sound to be heard, it needs to be played back through an electronic amplifier. And iust as Pavarotti or Elton John is on the CD only as a "memory", so water can memorise and amplify the signals of molecules that have been dissolved and diluted out of existence. The molecules do not have to be there, only their "imprint" on the solution in which they are dissolved. Agitation makes the memory.

So what do molecules sound like? "At the moment we don't quite know," says Didier Guillonnet, Benveniste's colleague at the Digital Research Laboratory, "When we record a molecule such as caffeine, for example, we should get a spectrum, but it seems more like noise. However, when we play the caffeine recording back to a biological system sensitive to it, the sysand replaying; at the moment we cannot recognise a pattern." "But," Benveniste adds, "the biological systems do. We've sent the caffeine signal across the Atlantic by standard telecommunications and it's still produced an effect."

The effect is measured on a "biological system" such as a piece of living tissue. Benveniste claims, for instance, that the signal from molecules of heparin - a component of the blood-clotting system - slows down coagulation of blood when transmitted over the Internet from a laboratory in Europe to another in the US. If true, it will undoubtedly earn Benveniste a Nobel prize. If not, be will receive only more scorn.

Benveniste's ideas are revolutionary - many might say beretical or misguided - and he is unlikely to persuade his most ardent critics. Although his ideas may seem plausible enough, be will win over his enemies only if his results can be replicated by other laboratories. So far this has not been done to the satisfaction of his many detractors.

### **UPDATE**

THE PLANNED destruction of the last known stocks of the smalipoz virus in June should be postponed, or "important scientific opportunities" could be lost, says the Institute of Medicine in the US. Two centres bold the virus - the Centers for Disease Control in Atlanta, Georgia, and a Russian virology institute in Novosibirsk in Siberia. The World Health Organisation intends to destroy them, but critics say that some countries may have kept smallpox stocks for use as bio-weapons

THE "WORKING draft" of the buman genome's 2 billion or so base pairs should be ready by spring 2000, 18 months ahead of time. It will cover at least 90 per cent of the genome, which contains roughly 100,000 genes. The completion date for the entire sequencing should be 2003. though the three centres doing sequencing work to publish the data are racing Craig Venter's company Celera, which aims to patent buman gene sequences in the US.

THE COMET Hale-Bopp, which blazed across the sky in 1997, may be full of primordial material from which the Sun and the planets formed almost 5 billion vears ago, Radio telescope data found that the comet's nucleus was spewing a volatile mixture of primordial deuterium (an isotope of hydrogen), the poisonous gas bydrogen cyanide and heavy water (water containing deuterium). The material may be rising from deep within the comet, said Geoffrey Blake, a professor of cosmochemistry and planetary sciences at California Institute of Technology. The images, published in Nature, suggest that 15 to 40 per cent of Hale-Bopp's mass is pristine interstellar material, while the rest has been transformed during the comet's long passages through space.

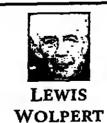
NEW INSIGHTS into the way the brain analyses visual information is revealed in Nature. Researchers at the Paul Sabatier University in Toulouse report that putting together a three-dimensional picture of an object occurs earlier in the visual pathway between retina and visual cortex - than was thought. The brain integrates information coming from the retina with information about the direction in which the eyes are pointed. The scientists say that nerve cells in the area of the visual cortex, known as V1, not only react to orientation of a visual stimulus, but also monitor the differences in its position on each retina, which gives information about bow far away the stimulus is. It had been thought that this information was adjusted to reflect the direction of gaze at a later stage.

### Listening to a clamour of voices

DO SCIENTISTS have a social responsibility? My own view is that the only special obligation they have is to put their work and its applications into the public domain. Love my colleagues as I do. I would not let them choose me a tie, let alone make ethical decisions on my behalf.

I do not want any group of experts making ethical decisions on their own that could affect our lives. Of course, any public discussion must be informed by reliable knowledge - the debate on genetically modified foods is an excellent counter-example.

Because there is so much anxiety that unregulated exploitation of new discoveries may seriously affect our health and quality of life. I became involved in organising a meeting at the Royal Society to discuss such issues. This was not just a public relations exercise but an attempt to have a real discussion between scientists and technologists and their most vocal critics. So Dr Douglas Parc the campaign director of Greenpeace, and Sheila McKechnie, director of the Consumers Association, were invited, as well as Jonathon Porritt. (We did not invite Prince



Charles, as public argument would have been difficult.) All the tickets - which were free were taken up weeks before the meeting. So how did it go? Very well, even better than I

had hoped. I had to listen to arguments to which I would normally give very little attention, and I suppose that was true for a lot of the audience. The discussion was vigorous and the Royal Society should be proud to have had so much criticism of science within its walls, justified or not. I cannot, for example, take seriously arguments against reductionism, which has been so successful, or agree that science does not tell us the "truth" about how the world works. A common theme was an attack on my position on the

distinction between science and technology, and anxieties about the increasing power and influence of biotechnology companies, which drive many of the changes. There was concern that the market was the arbiter of risk, rather than people's own assessment. Dealing with the problem of global warming was driven by inter-governmental organisations, but the question

tackled by companies. Another concern was the medicalisation of lifestyles, such as Steven Rose's claim that treatment for attention deficit disorder by the drug Ritalin was increasing in a way that bore little relation to real need.

Douglas Parr emphasised the

of risks from GM foods was

importance of public values in policy making. These values, be argued, were both better and more reliable indicators than those of the experts. In terms of the precautionary principle, if there were any dangers with respect to GM foods, why proceed? Jonathon Porritt took a similar line and attacked the idea that public understanding of science should be based on a deficit model - that is, that the public are ignorant and need to be educated. He treated with

contempt the idea that GM food would help solve the world's hunger problems. That some people went hungry was nothing to do with the amount of food available; it was about political and economic decisions about distribution. A doubling of the world's population early in the next millennium could easily be catered for without any new food technology, a theory that was a shock for me. He has promised

Lord Sainsbury, the minister for science, opened the meeting and made clear that science had from its very inception, a built-in set of rules for self regulation what was later referred to by Robert May, the Government's chief scientific adviser, as involving a clamour of voices, better known as peer review. Messy and noisy, but it works.

to send me the evidence.

Science by press release, whether on GM foods or cold fusion, is just not acceptable. Lord Sainsbury and Robert May emphasised the importance of public consultation and more openness. Scientists need to understand the public.

pearly at Gath cost.

Lewis Wolpert is professor of biology as applied to medicine at University College Landon

### **TECHNOQUEST**

launches of the Saturn V rockets, you see lots of smoke. Why? The Apollo Saturn V rocket sits on

top of a large hole. The engine nozzles dangle into a large free space (enough for a five-storey block of flats) which is used to dissipate the exhaust gases. If the nozzles were pointing at a solid surface the heat would melt it and the gas rebounding from the surface would destroy the rocket.

Near the bottom of the bole are some exits known as flame trenches. They let the gases escape back up to ground level so that they don't hit the rocket, or the launch tower and control equipment. Imagine the Saturn V on top of its

"hole" just before launch. A few seconds before the engines start, large water jets are started. They pour water down the hole. They flood the air with water droplets and cool the air as well as dragging it down the hole, setting up a massive down-wards wind. When the engines ignite, the wind makes the exhaust go down the hole towards the flame trenches. The engine nozzles are surrounded by a cold down-draught that simulates what they will experience in the atmosphere. It takes a few seconds for the engines to reach full power, the burning to stabilise and the nozzles to reach the right temperature. The exhaust

Q When you see pictures of of the flame trench and the rocket thinner and thinner until it is the size appears to be surrounded by smoke. and shape that is wanted.

> Q How do sweet-makers get the letters to go all the way through seaside rock? Rock is made from sugars. First the

sugars are heated up to about 300°C to make a syrup, some of which is coloured. The rest is put through a



Sweet success

pulling machine in which lots of tiny air bubbles are included, giving it a white colour. The rock at this stage is still hot and as it cools down it becomes like Plasticene and can be easily moulded.

While still warm the rock is rolled into long, thin tubes. The letters are then made by placing coloured tubes in among white ones to make a large (say, 5cm across) version of a stick of rock.

This large atick of rock is put on to a "batch roll", which keeps the rock in its cylindrical shape, and it gases start to emerge from the end is then extruded by hand, becoming

33.75. Total charge for credit £9,435.95 (includes a finance facility fee of £70, payable with the first or mileage/condition if the vehicle is returned at the end of the finance agreement. Written quotations

This process has to be done when the rock is still soft, so it has to be done quickly. The maximum number of letters that can be put in a rock depends upon the speed and expertise of the rock-maker. If the rock becomes completely cool, and therefore hard, before the above procedure is finished, the whole lot has to be thrown away.

Q What type of corpse are the scatopsid (filthy fly larva) found

Scatopsidae is a rather poorly known family of flies (Diptera), at least in terms of their biology. As far as it is known, most species breed in a variety of decaying plant and Phil Dye animal materials, eg rotting wood, damp compost, excrement and decomposing fungi. They are not typically associated with corpses. although some can breed in a wide variety of decaying substances and therefore could possibly do so in carrion at times, but as far as I know this has not yet been observed Adult scatopsids are most often seen on flowers, and large numbers may sometimes be seen on vegetation following mass emergence

> You can visit the Technoquest World Wide Web site at http://www.sciencenet.org.uk

near a breeding-site.

### The gift of generosity



Eduardo Paolozzi's substantial donation of his work to his native Scotland will soon have a permanent home. The playwright David Hare (left) spoke to the sculptor on the occasion of his 75th birthday

n 27 March, the Nahonal Galleries of Scotland are to open the new Dean Gallery in Edinhurgh, which will a permanent collection of work of Eduardo Paolozzi, and reate the extraordinary abunice of his studio.

To celebrate the occasion, and o to mark his 75th birthday, I went talk to Eduardo. He lives in elsea in resolutely Bohemian roundings, and when I arrived his ighter Emma was due a couple ours later, "to help me sort out rubbish from the, er...' "Art?" I ask. Spilling down the

irs is a litter of tins, boxes, newspers and unopened shirts still in ir cellophane. The inside of the om is layered with disparate ects. They pile up, fermenting in imagination, like humus. Above chaos, and up a flight of stairs, a single bed on which Eduardo lies ght, listening to what he calls the ird Programme. "It's been my ucation. I owe everything to the ird Programme.'

With most artists, it is the studio at is unruly, and the living quarters tich are tamed. But Eduardo, on e contrary, executes his work on e other side of the yard, in a place comparative order. There are so any busts and plaster scuiptures the accumulation of a life's work ranged neatly on library-like elves, that the effect is beautifully onochromatic. You could be in e dusty annexe of a quarry anager's office.

Eduardo is, as ever, physically impelling as he sits talking, never oking you in the eye, but always adessing his remarks a rather oman few inches above your left noulder, with the Renaissance wer of his features stronger than er for the passage of the years. I art by asking him about his workig methods. He works every week, and every day of the week, he says, ithout exception.

one, then I'm finished and that's it. 's become a way of life. For me, the leading a newspaper may be as alld as sketching a person sitting of that anything may be art. wo fried eggs may be art. And here's a large public which can ssimilate that into their range of deas. So maybe our creative world s rather more open than yours, David. in the theatre, there's still :uch a thing as orthodoxy."

"I know. Maybe that is because, n the theatre, larger numbers of

"I'm sure that's the reason." he grees. "Artists can make an art-work x themselves, all on their own, and noney isn't involved. That's the idvantage we have over you. Our orm is freer than yours because it's

Jo you ever see anything in a gallery "I have the opposite reaction, I



"I set myself a task, and when it's Eduardo Paolozzi: 'I set myself a task and when it's done, then I'm finished and that's it. For me, the concept of work doesn't exist'

often see things elsewhere that oncept of work doesn't exist. might be art, particularly if I look at Now I'm doing the breaker of the my old scrap-books. I used to cut out Enigma code, Alan Turing. I love an would be advertisements done by a generation of commercial artists who really could draw. Even in the Fifties I used to say that certain advertising was as good as - or more interesting than - say, a rather bad watercolour by an RA.

There's no point in being an artist if you have to subscribe to the actual moulds people would like you to inherit. Punch always used the fried egg in cartoons as a sort of symbol of the silliness of Modernism, but, by a wonderful irony, a pair of fried eggs ended up on display in the Royal Academy (in the Sensation show]."

When I think about your work, I You say anything can be art. But always think of that weird word -fecund". There are artists who are out to celebrate life in all its variety" "That's right. You've chosen a

good word when you say "celebrate". time of the war, yet my work about Turing is going to be full of shape and colour - not at all what people expect. By the way, I've run into the story of this woman at Bletchley who was so well-bred that she didn't even know how to make a cup of tea. Didn't you

use that in your film about black propaganda, Licking Hitler?" "A journalist reviewed the film saying he didn't believe that an 18year-old girl, however posh, could fail to know how to make a cup of tea in 1941. Several women wrote in my defence, saying they themselves went into the Wrens in exactly that

"Lucian Freud once told me that he bedded a very aristocratic girl and he sent her out to get breakfast. She came back with a lobster and two "Same Idea."

"The first few drawings I've done of Turing are partly architectonic. I things from the National Geo- artist being able to celebrate their like that world, and I've worked t a bus stop. That's Modernism. We graphic magazine. Often there ownidea of genius. It was the greyest very hard on it. I want them to be when he looks up from the drawingboard. I want them to fizz for himwant the art I do to inspire musicians and architects, because I feel that is my audience, not

necessarily the lay public." "Really? Who are your audi-

"Architects and musicians. I've been trying for ages to make a connection between shapes and music. Music means a lot to me; it's

my petrol." Don't you care about the general

"I did a sculpture in Selfridges. Three minutes away is the Wallace Collection. Selfridges is always packed and this incredible collection is always empty. Yet it could give such joy. What does that tell you?

The public don't feel they need art. but they do need Selfridges."

"They need Monet, it seems." "Take a photo of the queues there. It's the same people you see England Listeners to The Archers. It's full of retired civil servants with a daughter called Lucinda at umversity and destined for oblivion."

"Isn't there a contradiction in what you say, Eduardo? You say you aren't offended by students not bothering to walk the hundred steps from the Royal College of Art to the Serpentine Gallery, but you yourself know the tradition inside out, and want to make a contribution to it."

"I do, very much. Yes, I want to contribute. Exactly. And I don't mind being considered minor, because a lot of minor musicians and even painters thrill me, far more than the major ones. I would rather listen to Lennox Berkeley than Beethoven all

lectual life. The period had been so shattering that they were pleased to see you. I loved being in France, because I felt I wasn't such an oddbail as I was in London. Every dav was a day of euphoria, because I was exactly where I wanted to be." "Have you had that euphoria "Erm... well, perhaps I've got more maturity. At the time there was just the sheer pleasure of

feeling of embarrassment. You didn't

go into the living-room. You just went

to the studio and looked at what

they'd been doing. There was a

very black cloud over French intel-

being alive, and going for lunch with who you wanted to and not thinking about work. Now things are different. When I do the Alan Turing works, I want to give them to a hospital and a school. That will mean

a lot to me." You're saying you felt euphoria when you were young, and now, instead, you have the deep pleasure

of knowing what you want to do?" "Exactly. I think a lot about this question of work: Even today. I wouldn't call myself obsessive. I for an artist because the work becomes a wall between you and reality. Work can cut you off from reality. That's what I feel when I see a lot of abstract painting - that it's only in touch with itself, and not with

"When I think of you, I always

think of your generosity". "But what is strange to me is how ungenerous most artists are. Generosity should be normal. I can't understand why artists don't give their work away to the local hospital. It seems normal to me, but it never crosses their mind. I feel free now because I have no dealer, and I'm aware that if I had one it might limit my freedom to give my art away. I just know that unless I keep that freedom, I'm finished. Without making up my own mind I'm dead."

"You were very lucky, weren't you, to go to Paris when you did?" Very lucky indeed. Incredibly lucky. Because it's been the frame-

work for my life. From these men from Braque, from Tristan Tzara, from Giacometti, from Léger - 1 learnt the first and essential lesson: the lesson of sharing. They just let me in, and never behaved as if it were anything but what an artist does. I'm always shocked today when people collect all their lives and then sell the lot at Sotheby's, when there are museums that are crying out for these collections. I'm giving what I have to the V&A."

The new Dean Gallery at the National Galleries of Scotland. Edinburgh, opens 27 March and will include the Paolozzi Gift, presented by the artist in 1994, and a recreation of his studio.

A longer version of this interview appears in the Spring issue of Modern Painters' magazine. To order a copy for £5 (p&p free) call 0181-986 4854 with Visa/Access card

### Muddled creatures of the night

DANCE DRACULA SADLER'S WELLS LONDON

AS A vampire myself, I was heartened to find a host of my fetlows, in their tiaras and cloaks, among the audience for Northern Ballet Theatre's London première of Dracula. At last, vampires are coming out of the closet and affirming pride in their identity. The ballet has acquired a cult following in its regional touring since it was created in 1996, after the film-maker Ken Russell suggested the subject to his friend. the late Christopher Gable. then NBT's director. "Dracula." he said. "has not failed at the cinema box office yet."

The ballet charts Bram Stoker's romanticised version of varnoire history in which our master is seemingly destroyed at the end. More seriously, the action as staged by Gable and Patricia Doyle is a gem of muddle and ambiguity. They allowed the piece to evolve organically in collaboration with the dancers, when cold analysis would have insisted on flagged: it takes a while to dis-



'Dracula': the whole company throws itself into the performance Lourie Lewis

and turns clearly. The crucial encounters between Dracula and his victims are unnecessarily ambiguous, so that at first I thought Jonathan Harker had become one of us the had not), and that Dracula's first nibbles at Lucy and Mina had done their deed they had not). Characters are weakly

signalling the narrative twists entangle who each of the male ula slithering into nothingness. Dracula-hunters is, and we and Dracula's own destruction, never find out if Mr Renfield is mere madman or vampire.

Lez Brotherston's designs must be one reason for the piece's success, going all out with decaying stonework, silhouetted trees, and curtains fluttering in open windows. There are some splendid effects, such as Mina and Drac-

vaporised in a cloud of smoke. Philip Feeney has written suitably macabre music, with addilional help from choral volces wolf howls and ampli-

Above all, the whole company throw themselves into performing from Denis Malinkine as Dracula, to the massed

fied heartbeats.

ranks of oppressed Transylvanian peasants trying to transcend their terror in stamping folk dances. Jayne Regan is lumbered with the role of Mina and can't overcome her boring goody-goodiness. But Charlotte Broom finds plain sailing with gorgeous Laxy, her vitality translated into exuberant pirouettes and dazzling smiles.

Michael Pink's choreogra-

phy is at its best here: distinctively slow, broad and simous shapes that encapsulate Dracula's grotesque, insinuating er. His entrances are particularly spectacular, his hypnotic stillness holding all of us in his fist, whether he stands at the top of the castle stairs, resplendent in a long crimson coat, or hangs upside down like a bat in Lucy's bedroom. Malinkine's Bolshoi-derived strength comes into its own in the sensational pas de deux with Harker (Daniel de Andrade), manipulating him in eccentric overhead lifts and supports. Tall and sinewy, Malinkine is the ballet's darkly glittering core. Without him. it would probably collapse. He is a magnificent advertisement for vampire rehabilitation.

NADINE MEISNER

### Musical mockery

"But you met a lot of the major

"By a misunderstanding, I arrived

at the door of Hans Arp, and I was

sent packing. But not before he'd

fixed a time for me to come back.

Braque I just rang up. Not once was

I turned down by anyone. I was even

asked to come again by Leger. Even

at an early age I was very critical of

that myopic, catatonically with-

drawn kind of English art, so I loved

everything French - the world of

Aragon and Breton. I'm a bizarre.

upside-down kind of Frenchman.

Remember, you could just look in the

telephone book in 1947 and they were

"Yes. I think the easy access to

people like Brancusi was a kind of

euphoria after getting rid of the

Germans. It was open house. There

was never a hiccup. I suppose it was

naïveté, but one rang without any

"You rang Giacometti?"

ones, didn't you, in Paris, just after

the war? Did you just turn up at their

front doors?"

all there."

AS LP Hartley wrote at the beginning of The Go-Between Broadway is a different country: they do things differently there." He didn't really, but if his novel were turned into a musical (don't even mention the idea) the merciless Forbidden Broadway team would be lampooning its pretensions within minutes of the curtain coming down. If you think that idea for a musical is downright silly, try this. The company rework Judy Garland's song "The Aitchison, Topeka and the Santa Fe" from The Harvey

dreamed-of final sequence for a musical of Anna Karenina. Gerard Alessandrini's hit musical revue began life in 1982 and, although annually updated, his winning fermula remains the same. Take a show, its star or its creative team, steal a tune, and write tart and terrific lyrics to burst the balloon. Worried that something so culturally specific won't travel? After all, few of us have seen this season's Broadway shows. Well, don't be. Virtually everything on Broadway, from Cots to Sam Mendes's revival of Cabaret (over-sexed and

Girls as "The Ashkhabad,

Thilisi and Kiev Express", a

CABARET FORBIDDEN BROADWAY JERMYN STREET THEATRE

over there) either originated here or is now playing here. You sure as hell don't need a glossary to get the references. Sondheim's lyrics are hilariously buttonholed in "Into the Words" while Cameron Mackintosh is pilloried to the tune of

"My Favourite Things". After listing things to sell when the box-office flags - "Sweatshirts and T-shirts and blankets and mittens" - it ends: "It's £45 to get into the show/And £45/To leave." Sophie-Louise Dann crawls on her knees for a hilarious (and perfect) hatchet job on the vertically challenged Elaine Paige in Sunset Boulevard: "One foot more/And

you'd see my face..." Christine Pedi, meanwhile, is a one-woman cast album rasping away as a fiercely funny Elaine Strich, an earblasting Ethel Merman, a very mannered Barbra Streisand, a deranged Carol Channing and a viciously funny and manie Liza Minnelli: "Do the words 'Third Reich' mean anything to

you? Without them we wouldn't have had all of those Nazi musicals, like The Sound of Music and Cabaret..."

Disney gets hammered with a swipe at the indignity of actors playing animated figures in Beauty and the Beast. with Alistair Robins rendering "Be My Guest" as "Be Depressed". Nor need you have seen The Lion King to get the joke about "Circle of Mice" (bold-voiced Mark O'Malley), or Alvin Colt's deliciously silly shoestring re-creations of its eye-widening costumes - here all loo-brushes and vacuumcleaner hoses.

There are cracks at classic revivals - everyone except Trevor Numn is likely to find the Oklahoma! jokes funny - and some numbers, like Philip George's marvellously staged summary of Les Misérables. are revivals in themselves. There are more lightning costume changes than a catwalk show and in the confines of this 80-seat theatre, considerably less space, but that adds to the fun. This irrepressible gang of four, plus Paul Knight on piano, leap into loving but vengeful satirical gear at full throttle.

DAVID BENEDICT

لمكذا من ألاصل

sor a pretting in 3 75th buthday

in the transfer of the second section

----

and the same of

made the many of the same

12 William . . . . . . . . . . .

The same of the same of the same of

--

-

Been to the way

FRANCE PROPERTY.

white the Stance have to

and the same of

SE SEE SEE SEE

-

THE PLANT OF STREET

4 ABART

不确心的 医皮肤性人

of the said of

Parketty Philips

Market Services

-

and a separate in Management of

n in the second

THE PERSON NAMED IN COLUMN

-

The said the said to the said

(A.S. - ...

### MUSIC



### Some guys have all the luck

Robert Palmer is the boy from Batley who made it big. A new album, a wardrobe full of smart suits and a sumptuous international lifestyle - his only worry is whether he'll have to loosen his belt. By Glyn Brown

bert Palmer quite handmo essibly thinks he's it. in a way, he's right. A has made judicious use of his fine voice (a baritone, he can also sing tenor or falsetto, a whopping range), eclectic musical tastes (Detroit rhythm, reggae, bossa nova, techno-kraut) and debonair demeanour, to establish an unassailable place in the rock canon.

Some contend that Palmer was cheated of the status he deserved - the average Joe probably knows him for mid-Eighties stomps such as "Addicted to Love", a memory prompted by the notorious video of long-legged, possibly lobotomised, guitar-wielding lovelies. Still, he has the respect of his peers, a sumptuous lifestyle with a home on the Swiss-Italian border, and a new album recorded in Capri. This would all tend to make you slightly pleased with yourself.

As might the fact that at 50, and despite a recent claim that "Good living has blurred my once-taut outline", Palmer is on powerful form. He demonstrated this at a showcase in February where, in a room of Thai-food-chomping sales managers, he delivered maximum Bob. Backed by a gospel choir, he mixed new racks with gems from the past but, not surprisingly, it was the raunchy, sex-beast stuff that went down best - rock from a ime before Loaded or FHM but somehow refiguring them: GQ with its tie loosened und its shirt undone. Palmer in trademark uit, sweated the show like the soul man e is, rending his hair and grimacing. His naval officers - "They looked happening"

vencents, bowever, were ornate and geisha-like, and his well-shod feet so of his school wear. tiny they might once have been bound.

his love of the press, Palmer is sitting at the table smoking sternly and, at 10.30am. is half-way through a pitcher of Bloody Mary, having waved away tea or coffee with a curl of the lip. He clearly has the constitution of a tank, but there is, indeed, a cragginess to his playboy looks. In an Armani two-piece and wire-rimmed glasses, he has the air of a slightly malevolent, if louchely stylish, doctor.

If there is a fault he'll admit to -

though in Palmer's view it's more of a quality - it's intolerance. "I'm intolerant of incompetents and ignorance. That's one thing I recognise about my age: I used to suffer fools, but I won't now." It's this that makes some think him arrogant. He isn't, quite. Nevertheless, his self-assurance has been his lodestar. Having studied com-parative religion, he believes, as you would, in a composite god. Where does he look for reassurance? "To my inner harmony." He indicates his chest and laughs, as if it's obvious. "That's where God is."

Though born in Yorkshire, at three months old Palmer's family moved to Malta, where his father worked in naval intelligence. A solitary boy, he would accompany his parents to the glamorous balls of the international expatriate community. Here, and on American Forces radio, he heard Lena Horne, Sinatra and Nat King Cole, and soaked up a soigné approach to life. He became obsessed, for example, with the uniforms of the Italian

It wasn't vanity, he now insists. "T've A few days later, in his hotel room, I always been fastidious about clothes to get dirty." (The globe-trotting Palmer, by the way, has an accent that blends Batley and Los Angeles - Michael Parkinson goes Valley Girl. Or perhaps it's Alan Bennett. Of a recept tour of the States, where he was again depressed by messiness: "St Louis was - whoah! It'd gone downhill, it was scruffy ... ") Years later,

> 'I'm intolerant of ignorance. That's one thing I recognise about my age

when he began performing, the immaculate Marvin Gaye and Otis Redding were his arbiters of taste. Plus a suit is a disguise and, he claims, he is painfully shy. Finally: "It's what you do, not how it looks." A sigh. "And thank God I never got tied up in any silly fashions - I nearly mentioned Bryan Ferry, but he had a feather boa, didn't he? - and had to look back and die of embarrassment."

The family returned to England, where the weather came as a nasty shock, and at 12 Palmer began guitar lessons with "a little old lady who burned a paraffin stove. First time was 'The Girl from Ipanema"." After school there was a stint at art college, but the curriculum "didn't encourage artistry", and he left to develop his R&B tastes. At 19 he got his first pro-

- and grew faratical over the neatness fessional singing job; and he met his wife Sue, a fabric designer, on Slough station. "I was taken by her style. Silver boots

and silver mini-dress. The Sixties,

"Well, she was also reading a science fiction book, and I'm a sci-fi fan." Palmer is a private man but, despite the humping, grinding mid-period hits, to which the quest for random sex is brainlessly urgent, his personal life has been famously settled. It's quite a shock, then,

to discover that the couple divorced more than 10 years ago. But back to 1973, when he was spotted singing with Elkie Brooks in Vinegar Joe by Island records' MD Chris Blackwell. Blackwell flew him to New Orleans and set him up to record his début album with those legendary funk stalwarts, The Meters. "To begin with, there was a definite impression of, What's the white boy doin' here?' Ten minutes into the session, we hit a real big pocket and it got hot. The drummer stood up and said: Hey, what's your name?' From then on, we

through the Alley, was a cult success but, despite sophisticated follow-ups, the gorgeous singles from them - "Every Kinda People", "Johnny and Mary", "Looking for Clues", "Some Guys Have All the Luck" did only moderately well.

rocked." The result, Sneakin' Sally

It was joining the humbering Power Station, with Duran Duran's John and Andy Taylor, that brought Palmer worldwide stardom in 1984; the album he made when he left, Riptide, was his first number one, powered by "Addicted to Love" and its incendiary video . Two years later, Heavy Nova continued the video for-

mula ("Simply Irresistible", "I Didn't Mean to Turn You On") that so many found offensive, and went platinum.

Subsequent albums came and went unable to bring up his kids in the Bahamas, then move to the chocolate-box town of Lugano - but Palmer has his pride. Thus, a new label and his first LP in five years. Called Rhythm & Blues, it mixes romance with solid grooving, one or two eccentricities, a lost jewel from Little Feat's Lowell George and a cover of Marvin Gaye's

"Let's Get it On". Is he pleased with it? "Some of it's blatantly erotic," he snorts. I wonder whether he tries to be provocative. "Just being honest." A shrug. "First thing anyone potices about somebody is what sex they are." When he's not working, Palmer likes to read, or irritate his teenage son and daughter by cranking up Motorhead or Rannstein. ("German goth band... wooh, they're fantastic.") He keeps his cigarette case full, except when he's performing, and remains a bon viveur ("And then it's another belt-hole. For whom the belt holes..."). He always claimed not to do drugs, and though now he'll say "Ah - I just never admitted it", he doesn't need them, anyway.

"I didn't used to be able to sit down... I thought that unless I was running around I'd vanish. Now I'm real good at relaxing. Light a fire. Put the slippers on. Watch TV." He looks up. Even talking about slippers, he's suave. "It's such a buzz doing that."

'Rhuthm & Blues' is released on 12 April, The single, 'True Love', is out Monday. Robert Palmer tours the UK in April

### LYRIC SHEETS

MARTIN NEWELL

Thirty years ago, in the name of World Peace, John Lennon and Yoko Ono took to their beds in a luxury suite on the ninth floor of the Amsterdam Hilton. This media event-cum-art statement lasted for a week and made world headlines.

> Room 902 **Amsterdam** Hilton

March 1969



So did it change the world, that time? Not London's world in office shoes Which struggled joyless, back from work To see it on the tea-time news The traffic on the Blackfriars Bridge Still thundered over just the same The Sixties, not that London cared Was over now in all but name The Sixties over? What a shame Or what a sham, as some insisted They never put the posters up Not round our way and so ...

Hard to believe this bearded guy Messiah-in-pyjamas Who, with granny glasses Lying beside His newly wedded voodoo bride Once sang, a scant two years before, "It's Getting Better". All the time, TV and newsreel journalists Were clustered round the pair agog They'd booked the presidential suite A dead-expensive room and bog Set nine floors up above the street.

Hair Peace. Bed Peace. I really tried To understand. I swear I did And still a kid, defended it From all these early skinhead types And I was wrong and they were right But someone hit it on the head: "A week in bed?" my mate's mum said As if it were an offer On the label of a tin of rice "Yes. I could do with that right pow And Peace - that would be very nice."

### ROBERT HANKS ON TV



'Dispatches' suggested that police not only massaged crime figures but gave them topless relief



THE CONTRACT OF THE PROPERTY O

O'TH HENRY & DO CONCESSED BY PREVIOUS MILITIES

### I'M SURE I SAW THEM ON A POSTER...

THE INDEPENDENT'S REGULAR ROUND-UP OF NEW BANDS

WHISTLER LOOKED petrified. Rightly so, since their brittle acoustic sound was being aired in a venue generally frequented by rabid heavy metal and guitar-based indie bands. A s they took their seats ("Seats?" cried the man next to me. "Where do they think they are? The Albert Hall?"), singer Kerry Shaw eyed the audience like an amious owl But as her vocals took hold, the laddish chatter at the bar abated. With their hazy harmonicas, dreamy acoustic guitars and even the occasional mandolin, Whistler seemed gloriously old-fashioned and must be commended for resisting the temptations of the turntable. But best of all were Shaw's bittersweet lyrics that reserved the right to be miserable and

WHISTLER XING'S CROSS WATER RATS, LONDON

SNOWPONY ASTORIA, LONDON

CAMDEN BARFLY. LONDON

entreated long-lost lovers "Den't jump in front of my train". Still, Whistler seemed

overjoyed to be alive next to Snowpony. With former members of Stereolab, Echobelly and My Bloody Valentine, they have an impressive pedigree and their debut album The Slow-Motion World of Snowpony has been rapturously received in

Snowbord, a motion lacklustre and laboured would be more fitting. Vocalist Katherine Gifford might have been dragged out of bed for the show while her listless vocals made her sound like she was halfway through a yawn. Some respite was offered in instrumental moments that mixed brazenly upbeat percussive sounds with sinister guitars. Keyboardist Debs Smith also provided mercurial relief as she rocked

indie circles. But "slow-

motion" understates

maniacally on her heels and punched the keys with a cleuched fist. The Oxford five-piece Medal came equipped with a singer with all the correct credentials: a bone structure to rival The

that made you want to help bear the weight of his guitar With their delicate melodies and plaintive demeanour, Medal have clearly taken lessons from their local forebears Radiohead, though their pastoral atmospherics echo Pink Floyd. The singer's fragile vocals were sustained by warm organ sounds which were systematically shattered by swirling, psychedelic guitars. While they put on a largely compelling show, they possessed neither the intellectual prowess or the searing intensity of Radiohead, and you couldn't help thinking that Medal have missed the miserablist boat. **FIONA STURGES** 

Verve's Richard Ashcroft,

heavy eyelids and an

impossibly skinny frame **BOBBY VEE** CHRIS MONTEZ LITTLE EVA JOHNNY PRESTON BRIAN HYLAND THU 13 MAY BOURNEMOUTH BIC SAT 15 MAY **GLASGOW SECC** SUN 16 MAY ABERDEEN EXHIBITION CENTRE MANCHESTER EVENING NEWS ARENA TUE 18 MAY NEWCASTLE TELEWEST ARENA BIRWINGHAM NEC WED 19 MAY

0141 287 7777 91224 620811 **8161 930 8000** 0191 401 8800 0121 780 4133 WEMBLEY ARENA 0181 795 9526 Why Almed 2 for ce (117) 403 3331, Tickelmouther 24for ce (117) 344 4444 First Call 6171 426 1080, Storgeten 0171 734 9632. SAT 22 MAY CARDIFF INTERNATIONAL ARENA 01222 2 For details of seach departure paints from a town poor year, sait too COACHLINE (24ir cc) 8878 1210123 town to be major to be still be ALL SHOWS 7.50PM

**81282 456456** 

THE ALL AMERICAN
SOLID SOLID

THE ORIGINATOR THE INNOVATOR THE EMANCIPATOR THE ARCHITECT OF ROCK "N'ROLL

33.75. Total charge for credit £2,435.25 (Includes a finance facility fee of £70, payable with the first milesse/condition if the vehicle is returned at the end of the finance accomment. 3.75. Total charge for cream tar, notate that the end of the finance agreement. Written quotations r

### Come on, feel the noise

Mogwai play loud. (And very quiet.) And they have a few sordid myths they'd like to dispel. By Ben Thompson

efore this interview need to get off their chests. It concerns what can only be called "The Sanitary Protectioo Incident". This is one of those stories which follow bands around - like Led Zeppelin and the fish, or 911's pact with Satan - getting repeated in various forms in everything that's written about them. The King James version unfolds along the following lines.

Trapped in a European tour environment where alcohol was hard to come by - it is hard to know quite how to put this in a family newspaper, but frank and fearless seems the best approach, so here goes - Mogwai briefly soaked tampons in vodka and inserted them into their rectal cavities in order to facilitate the swift and efficient eotry of the small available stock of alcohol into their bloodstreams.

"It's terrible," says lanky bass-player Dominic Aitchison, "I can't ever let my mum read anything written about us because that story always crops up."

Sometimes they say it happened in Poland," is guitarist Stuart Braithwaite's more practical obection, "which would be ridiculous because alcohol is really cheap there - it only makes sense in Scan-

In the interests of Dominic's mum's peace of mind, Mogwai would like it to be known that they never did this strange and deviant deed, merely referred to the practice in an innocent conversation with a journalist, whose own alleged drunkenness caused him to misre-

TEL: 0171 293 2222

pants rather than narrators. They told the story in tandem with another - even more gruesome about shaven-domed Russian ravers splitting their heads open with razors, covering the wounds with masking tape, then putting woolly hats over the top so that when they sweat on the dancefloor the

glue goes straight into their brains. Mogwai would like it to be known that they have never done this either. Even though, some of their more brutal music - the giant dioosaur-grunt guitar in "Like Herod", or the mighty vortex of "Mogwai Fear Satan" - could be said to offer a similar level of cerebral dis-

'We always had a serious intent to rock. We blew up an amp at our first practice'

orientation with a less explicit risk of agonising death. Named after the dearing creature in Gremlins, which became demonic on contact with water, Mogwai essay a similar blend of impish mischief and heartstopping sheer destructive potential. Other band's drummers use the rhythmic water-wings known as 'click tracks". Their drummer uses

From an early London gig, in Sep-tember 1996 at the Monarch (a horrible little room, like watching a band play inside a kidney) to this January's triumphant sold-out appearance in the wide-open spaces of the London Astoria, it's the in-

member it with the band as partici- tensity of their music that has set Mogwai apart from their peers. Their sound is largely instrumental with moments of exquisite delicacy alternating with huge swathes of noise, to create an overall effect that is simultaneously beautiful and daunting - like walking underwater through a school of whales.

We were never a muckabout band right from the beginning," insists the diminutive but abundantly charismatic Braithwaite. "We always had a serious intent to rock... we blew up an amp at our first practice!" The healing power of noise is one thing all four of this young Scottish quartet are firmly agreed upon. "The thing about noise is it confuses your brain," Stuart continues, "so if tunes are hidden in it, that makes them more rewarding. There are a lot of bands tighter or more technically proficient than us that don't get the same kind of reaction."

The tingle which runs through a Mogwai audience in the opening maments of a song people recognise is more than a ripple, it's a susurra-tion. This collective expression of pleasure is more reminiscent of a club than a gig. Only the feeling in the crowd as Underworld launch into "Born Slippy" live comes close to it, but even that generation-delineating anthem has words in it for people to latch on to. To elicit the kind of emotional response Mogwai do with music that - excepting the occasion-al taped spoken word interfude, one guest vocal turn from Arab Strap's Aidan Moffat, and the title track of the new album on which Stuart makes a notable singing debut - has oo truck with the human voice, is a truly imposing achievement.

Mogwai's new album, Come On Die Young, attests to their rapid evo-



Mogwai's largely instrumental sound mixes moments of frightening brutality with passages of exquisite delicacy Tom Craig

the rogue tenacity of a wild straw- a speech by Iggy Pop into a

lution. It was recorded with Mercury Rev's Dave Fridmann at the studio controls, in Cassadoga, upstate New York. The reasoning behind this choice of location was not, as might have been expected, an attempt to touch psychic bases with obscure American bands such as Slint and Bardo Pond who are Mogwai's primary inspiration; it was far more practical. "We were hoping to all turn up for work every day," Stuart ex-plains, "because we were so far away from home there'd be no escape."

The fruit of their heightened concentration is a record which, on first hearing, seems almost pathologically low key, but then swiftly twines itself around your heart with berry. "We knew the whole thing was going to be dead quiet - we didn't want to do the quiet/loud thing again, because we'd done that pretty well on the first album [1997's deliriously bracing Mogueti Young Team] but then when we started to record all the songs together, every single one was in a minor key and we began to think Jesus Christ, this is really depressing"."

It's very pretty though, isn't it? "I don't think sad music is depressing." Stuart affirms, his mood brightening, "it's bad music that's depressing good music is uplifting, however sad it is." "Punk Rock." Come On Die Young's opening track, bleeds sombrely meandering guitar line. "I don't know Johnny Rotten," the great man notes, "but I'm sure he puts as much blood and sweat into what he does as Sigmund Freud did." At times like this, Mogwai's

access to the unconscious. Like their last release, the polemically self-explanatory No Education = No Future (Fuck the curfew) EP, the title for Mogwai's new album came from a graffito near their homes in Lanarkshire, Those uneasy about the band's instrumental bent have been inclined to exaggerate their social realist tendencies

blend of pure sound and found voic-

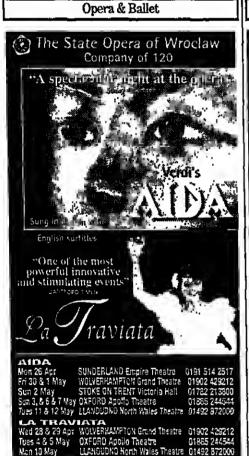
es seems to have established direct

as if proximity to dour Scottish housing estates somehow excused them from lyric duty.

"That's rubbish," says Stuart cheerfully. "We're all middle class. Just because we swear a lot and get pissed occasionally doesn't stop our families living in nice houses. He pauses for a moment, his thoughts turning mischievously to a fellow countryman even more ootorious for drinking and bad language. "You might be interested in having a look at Aidan from Arab Strap's house, by the way - it's the biggest one in Falkirk!"

'Come On Die Young' (Chemikal Underground) is out on 29 March

ENTERTAINMENT: CONCERTS, THEATRE, WHAT'S ON FAX: 0171 293 2505

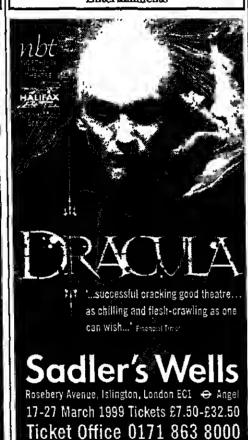


ST PETERSBURG

BALLET THEATTE rms alise and mpetent hands i 19 & Sat 20 Mar WOLVERHAMPTON Grand Theatre 01902 4293 in 21 & Mon 22 Mar SUNGERLAND Empire Theatre 0191 514 25 | S. Warn | Linke | 01422 226653 | Tue 23 & Wed 74 Mar | HULL New Theatre | 01422 226653 | That 1 & Saf 3 April | SOUTHEND-ON-SEA Cliffs Paylish | 0101 514 2513 | Mon 5, 6, 9 & 10 April | READING The Hexagon | 0118 950 666 Wed 7 & Thur 8 April READING The Hexagon 0119 960 6660

**Publishers** NEW AUTHORS
PUBLISH YOUR WORK
ALL SUBJECTS CONSIDERED chon, non-Schon, biography nugicus, poety chiliber. UTKORS WORLDWIDE INVITED MINERVA PRESS

ANTIQUES DEALERS' ASSOCIATION FAIR Duke of York's Headquarters (Nr. Stoams Sqi King's Rd, Chelsea, SWS. 17-23 March. Open weekdays 11-8pm. Sun and, last day unsi 8pm. Into: 0177-730 8730 Theatre TICKETS ON THE LION KING



BECOME A WINE BUFF! TOTAL LATERIANDENT The Grape to Glass shoos. Central Lond CELINE BION Leisure Activities TONY BEIMETT RAQS SHARQI BOLLING STOKES EGYPTIAN BELLYDANCE NEIL DIAMOND

INTRODUCTION WORKSHOP SORBIE WILLIAMS Sat 27th March 27 Fee & 25 MARCH 11am-3pm at Quvensbridge LUMIS MORISSETTE Leisure Centre (E8) Tel: 0181 986 2936 THE CORRS Art Galleries BOYZONE

BE THE

TO KNOW

Springsteen, Moonina, Bon Jon, Striesmo, REM,

BRYAN ADAMS, AEROSMITH

SAPLY RED. GUN'S & RIOSES

0181 305 6866

Don't forget to mention .. The Independent when replying to adverts 

European Drawings III Works on paper by 20th C Masters 17th March - 17th April for exhibition info and free colour catalogue: WOLSELEY FINE ARTS 12 Needham Road, Notting Hill,

Antiques/Fine Art

Tel: +44 (0) 171 792 2788

Fax: +44 (0) 171 792 2988 Wolseleyfinearts@btinternet.com

**ANTIQUE DESKS** Large stocks of old desics, Oak, Mohogany, Weinut, Victorian, Edwardian, Rolltop, Cylinde Partner's, Dickens and Pedestal Desics, also

Dining Tables in stock. DON SPENCER ANTIQUES 01926 499857 01926 407989 MOBILE 08365 25755 Old desks purchased 36A Market Phoe, Warste (Baseth Village Autique Costs

**FINE ANTIQUE** DINING TABLES

A good selection of 19th century mahogany extending dining ### Jarm Antiques in stock Leckhampstead.

Berks 01488 638541|638361 Library and writing furniture also
Only 6 mins from J13 M4 usually available.

We endeavour to find the table you require.

Music Services



Even ordinary mail order prices of CDs don't give you the ultimate saving on CDs that WSL offers you. Now you can buy your CDs at dealer's cost price plus a small handling charge. Only WSL offering e malt order service for more than 40 years - can offer you such low cost listening. So why not see what savings you really can make by checking our prices?

Write, phone, fex or e-mei today for full details CD Send the full details of all WSL CD Services.

I enclose 2 x 1st, close stamps for openty reply Post Code

ai

S

COLC

d

WILSON STEREO LIBRARY LTD
PO BOX 32 ST. LEGNARDS ON-SEA FART SURSEX TASS DIZ
TELEGRAPH TASSEA FOR GRAPA TIANS
TELEGRAPH T

St Bartholomew's Hospital Choral Society City of London Sintania. Vaughan Williams A Sea Symphony Serenade to Music ELGAR'S In the South Majella Cullagh + Alan Opic +

Westminster Central Hall Tuesday 30 March 1999 \* 7.30 pm Tickets: £20 \* £16 \* £12 \* £9 \* 66 . . . Prom: SBECS Box Opins MEE 1994 Service at the first

ST. JOHN'S, SMITH SQUARE megistorics charity

LONDON McZART PLAYERS

Monthes Sassert conductor

BBC Sounding the Century British Product and Fugue for strings, Martin Perits Symptonic Concertainte, Ellipch Concerto Grosso Not, Tippett Concerto for Orchestra 210 55 (conc. 95)

SINFONA 21

BBC SINGERS

Martin Neary conductor. Jonathan Hervety Passion and Resumption 212 29 28 (concessions 28

Dining Out FISH CENTRAL 149-151 Central Street Reservations 0171 253 4970 "The Plaice to bell!" - Will Thebelyan Camden New Journal Aug 1997 "Do not eat here urless you are senously Chris Goodhall. Islington Gazette "Excellent value" – Time Out November The best fish and thins in central London\*
- ES Magazine Navember 1996
- Also et oliv are Char gilled 1-ton treats, stein study and selection of the control of the control

Auctions



**MEMORABILIA** aties Items. Rare Powters, Americana, Collectables, Pintables, Slot Machines and Jukeboxes etc. Newing Saturday March 27th, 9sm - 4pm Illustrated Colour Camlogues 55.50 Telephone: 01279 647191 Fax: 01279 816391

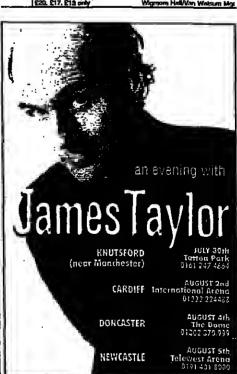
SAFFRON WALDEN ESSEX CB10 UB

To advertise in this section please call the **Entertainment Team** on 0171 293 2028.

MIGMORE 214. E12. E10, C7 Wigmore Hall
Sun
21 More
11.30ea
1992 Med. EAN plano
Beattowers String Too in ID Oo.9 No.2
1992 Stone
Sun
21 Mar
21 M 214, 212 210, CT JOSEPH KAL EXISTENT PROPERTY OF THE PROPERTY O

Concerts

Reichmanistrow: Somata in G minor Op. 19
E15, C13, C10, C3
Not Chuthry Concent Premotions
E15, C13, C10, C3
Not Chuthry Concent Service
Song Rectal Service
KEVIN MURPHY plano. Schubert: 8 Songs, Trad: Stemandoan:
Rosen: Early in the Mouring: The Lordy Huddon: Ives: Two Little
Flowers: Songs by William Soloup and Gene Scheder
E16, C13, C10, C2
Wilgmon Hullingson & Williams Litt
FLORILEGRUM: RACKEEL ELUCTT cooming: SALLY BRUCEPAYTHE site; IANN PATOM sensor: THOMAS GUITHRIB beass
Backt: Sintonia to Carrietta BWV42; Easter Oratorio BWV249;
Telempent: Toleithusis Pr. L. Overture and Conclusion in E minor
E16, E15 only
Supponed by Mayfeld Valley Arts Trus:
BORTICIAN STRING QUARTET
Wishinburg: Internacion: Constitute No. 2 in F. Op. 92:
Sheetstooviecht: Cuerniat No. 13 in B flot minor Op. 139; Quartet
No. 14 in F sharp Op. 1-42
Yügmore Hell/Yon Walsum Mgs.



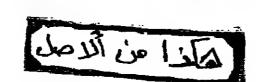
**Creative Writing Competition** All enthusiasts are invited to enter the competition which offers a prize up to

£1000

Awarded on behalf of the Islamic Centre England For more information and application form please send on A4 SAE to earch and Education Department, ICE

140 Maida Vale London W9 1QB (Re 1/99)

Applications must reach us by 30 June 1999



. >2-

### THIS WEEK'S ALBUM RELEASES

REVIEWED BY ANDY GILL



**ROOTS MANUVA** Brand New Second Hand Big Dada

LIKE SOMETHING out of the paranoid fictions of Thomas Pynchon, there are now two music industries existing side by side in Britain. The more powerful, mainstream one dominates the public perception of pop culture with a dire parade of showbiz fluff and celebrity crossovers, promoting a strategy in which a performer's soap-opera or sitcom profile is vastly more important than their music. Such has, admittedly, always been the case, though the four major conglomerates have never before wielded quite

such a stranglehold as they do now. Fortunately, there's a network of small labels fulfilling the vital function which the majors' A&R departments have comple-cently neglected. Thanks to them, 1999 is already shaping up as a vintage year, with tremendous releases by Smog. Jimi Tenor, Jim O'Rourke, Colin Reid, Bonnie "Prince" Billy, Pop-Off Tuesday and Beth Orton joined here by the debut offering from Rodney Smith, aka Roots Manuva.

The title of Roots's album is a concise summation of the sampling aesthetic, the way that new vessels are wrought from old materials and memories – especially,

in his case, from the Jamaican dance-hall strut of the early Nineties, rendered here through deep techno basslines and terse drum cracks. There's a warm, twitchy swagger to cuts such as "Clockwork" and "Oh Yeah" that's utterly irresistible. Else where, Manuva varies his beats with some originality, as when a disjointed, arhythmic groove is used to evoke the odd

almosphere of "Strange Behaviour". Roots himself describes his style as Wonky beats, mid-tempos, bleeps and blurps, crazy, zany phraseologies and intergalactic organics", which comes close, but doesn't quite convey the triphoppy mood or the unusual mix of menace and deadpan comedy in his raps. With his tone of lofty, nonchalant assertiveness and his dark declamations upon decaying social structures, I'm reminded more than once of both Rakim and the Wu-Tang Clan, though even they would be hard pushed to equal "Juggle Tings Proper", where street-level obligations are weighed against the wider geopolitical picture. Roots Manuva is by some distance the most significant and original new voice in hip-hop. And he's British, too.



**VARIOUS ARTISTS** Elton John and Tim Rice's Aida

SOMETIMES, FACED with the tide of corporate hogwash that is the modern record industry, words fail me. Would that a similar affliction had stricken Tim Rice before he decided that the first rhyme of this album - sorry, this "cross-platform multi-media project" - would pair "ruler" with "minusculer".

This version of the great Verdi operatic warhorse Aids is effectively the follow-up to The Lion King, Elion John and Tim Rice's last commission from Disney, though here there are no cute cartoons to sell the songs; just a parade of tired old rock lags such as Sting, Lenny Kravitz and Tima Turner, augmented by boring but bankable younger talents such as Shania Twain, Boyz II Men and, of

course, The Spice Girls. The result is the kind of awesome abomination that should have afficionados of camp gleefully shouting the worst lines back at the performers, and arguing as to which is the more hilariously ill-matched of Elton's duetteers -Leann Rimes, Lulu, Janet Jackson (awfull), or the spectacularly dreadful Celine Dion wannabe, Heather Headley. Still, at least now we know who put the "Aieee!" in Aida.



**VARIOUS ARTISTS** River of Song Smithsonian Followay

SINCE ITS establishment in 1948, Moe Asch's Folkways label has served as the Smithsonian Institute's aural arm, a repository of American cultural roots dedicated to ensuring that the work of such seminal figures as Leadbelly and Dock Boggs is available to hear today. This two-CD set, the sound-track to a PBS television series, uses the Mississippi river as a geographical thread by which to link the musics (mostly roots musics, despite the ill-advised attempt to shoehorn in the likes of Soul Asylum) of the American Midwest and South. The journey starts in the Minnesota headwaters with a Chippewa Indian pow-wow chant and the Skal Club Spelmanslag's bowed-saw rendition of "Red-Headed Swede", proceeding through St Louis (folk, jazz, blues), Memphis (R&B, gospel, rockabilly) and Mississippi (blues) to Louisiana (jazz, blues, cajun, and creole R&B). Despite a few incongruities - Tex-Mex music from Illinois? -it's a richly varied ride, illustrating the country's cosmopolitan make-up. It's educational, too: how else would music lovers know they should at all costs avoid getting stranded in the musical wastelands of Iowa and Wisconsin?



DAVID THOMAS Mirror Man Cooking Vinyl

THE LATEST album by the Pere Ubu founder, an offshoot of his "Disastodrome" South Bank season of last year, also involves a musical journey, this one taking place "in the space between where you are and where yon want to be". Following such American pioneers as Harry Partch, it's an evocation of intangible geographical presence, Thomas using collaborators with a finely-tuned sense of place - Jackie Leven, Linda Thompson and Peter Hammill - to detail his notional Nowheresville, USA. The poet Bob Holman's impressionistic beat travelogue "Mirror Man Speaks" opens proceedings in fine style: against a shim-mering haze of sound, he skilfully sets the mood of suspension you slip into while travelling that sense of being lifted out of the present into the timeless state of disinterested observer. From there, the ruminations upon places from Montana to Memphis build up to a national montage, a bricolage of road signs, advertising boardings and observations dedicated to putting the local back into locality. As David Hild observes in his "Ballad of Florida", it's not a small world any more, not since Disneyland became Disneyworld.



SKUNK ANANSIE Post Orgasmic Chili

WHAT WITH Pre-Millennial Tension and now Post-Orgasmic Chill, there's a bit of a Present Pretention Surfeit hanging around rock's dimmer corners these days. Life goes on pretty much as before in Skunk Anansie land - the wee bald lass is still upset about one thing or another, and frankly, the rest of us could care less. Even with a lyric sheet, songs such as "On My Hotel TV" and "We Don't Need Who You Think You Are" still seem like little more than incoherent rants studded with spiky buzz-words - black, gay, nigga, blood, crucify, blame, god, kill, victim which lose any impact they might have contained under Skin's less than tender

ministrations. There are half-hearted attempts to add a little more spritely variety to the golem tread of their trademark heavy riffing, by blending in the occasional techno passage to "Charlie Big Potato", or ladling strings over tracks such as "Tracy's Flaw" and "Secretly", but any intended gradations of mood are hidden behind Skin's acidulous vocals.

She appears to have mistaken shrieking for intensity, and the result is the complete absence of any emotional tone save reproach.

#### RIFFS

THE FIRST AND LATEST RECORDS BOUGHT BY CLAIRE MARTIN, JAZZ VOCALIST

Sugar Baby Love . It was teeny-bop pop; the Rubettes wore big white golfing caps and The Goodies TV show took the mickey out of them - I think I made one of those bats out of paper. You had to see them to believe them. How embarrassing. I remember quite vividly that I was a Rubettes fan. and was either six or seven, and

went to the BBC, where they were doing Top of the Pops, and waited outside, watching them go in and out. I found it very emotional. The song had a high bit, and it had something that really moved me, perhaps mostly owing to my first real heavy-duty crush, Alan Williams, the lead singer. He was goodlooking the first person to make me blush. I can't say that they

had any influence on me, but even now I think they're good, and if I wanted to flatter them I would describe their sound as Motown pop. .

Elvis Costello and **Burt Bacharach** Painted From Memory How they wrote this album is interesting. They just sat opposite each other, at two

facing planes, which is . collaborative in away I have never thought of doing. It's basically new Bacharach songs with Costello lyrics, and as a brand-new collaboration it really, really works. I have always been a big Costello fan, and I think he has reached a peak as an artist. on this album. It's not easy to follow in the footstens of Howard David. The Bacharach and

David Songbook introduced me to so many great songs, and singers, such as Aretha Franklin, Dusty Springfield. It's a surprising album, as well, because you wouldn't expect the contemporary, evocative and movingly edgy lyrics to work with the swish, elaborate Bacharach orchestration, But they complement each other like light and shade. I have just

recorded a Costello track, and will sing some of these new songs at my concert, and hope that Costello will really like it and tell me he loves me.

INTERVIEW BY JENNIFER RODGER

Claire Martin will be at Pizza Express Jazz Club, Dean Street, London W1, from 24 to 28 March (0171-439 8722)

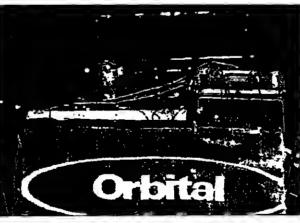


### What goes around...

LIVE ORBITAL COLSTON HALL BRISTOL

IS THIS how techno ends, not banging but whimpering? The musical revolution that began in the Summer of Love has been transplanted to the safe environment of a municipal hall, where red-coated local authority stewards man the exits, their ears plugged with cotton-wool. What once came across as sonic transgression now seems almost cosy.

Phil and Paul Hartnoll of Orbital - named after the M25 motorway that took so many carly ravers to illegal parties in muddy fields - are engaged on a national tour whose destinations include the civic halls that only a few years ago would have been disparaged as beyond the pale. Playing stand-up music in a sit-down venue, Orbital were hamstrung right from the start, but despite the difficulties the show worked, more or less. If you stood up



All the comforts of home: Orbital at the decks

success. For those of us sitting in the stalls, however, it was like watching paint dry, coat, after

coat, after coat. Orbital were preceded by a sound system whose ambienttechno mix reminded you of old Paul Hardcastle tunes (a retroconnection that refused to go away all night). Then a fanfare from A Clockwork Orange sig-

and danced, the performance nalled the progress of the could perhaps be counted as a brothers into their enclosure of computer and keyboard workstations, with the duo's trademark torchlight goggles providing a much-needed visual stimulus. Soon, great granite-like slabs of synthesiser chords filled the air, with bass frequencies so loud they resounded in your chest cavity. Instead of being dangerous,

boys coming to the front to dance, but after a while even the most reserved left for the front, or half-shimmied by their seats, hedging their bets. Orbital's music was accompanied by a multi-screen filmshow that seemed to have

something to do with the millennium. Clocks wound for ward; binary codes scrolled, and at the end fingers pressed buttons that may well have been sending Stealth bombers off on some final, apocalyptic mission. It would have looked great in a tent, but from a cranfy municipal seat it was just like watching television. All that was missing was the pipe and slippers.

indecently clean and healthy,

how to react. Should they go tot-

ally mental from the start, or ease into fully fledged mania in-crementally? At first, they re-

mained almost touchingly shy, with only the most out-of-it

The problem for the audience in the half-full hall was

especially for techno.

PHIL JOHNSON however, the sound was almost Tours to Sun 28 Morch

### £15.99 Featuring tenvixes, extended versions and pickickely Duran Duran, Duran Duran. The new double ad from Duran Duran, Strange Behaviour' our price

2,023.00, APR 8.4%. Purifier charges may be made 33.75. Total charge for credit \$2,435.95 (includes a finance facility fee of \$70, payable with the first

ileage/condition if the vehicle is returned at the end of the finance agre

### As if 1992 never ended

BECOMING MONSTROUSLY successful in the alternative sector of American rock'n'roll is a process similar to acquiring an arts degree from a British university - hang around long enough and you'll get it eventually, apparently regardless of your worth, abil-

ity or dress sense. The New York trio Goo Goo Dolls have been doggedly touting their amiable but inremarkable power-pop to any audience who'd put up with them for what feels like Centuries, and in the last year we received their reward: a it song ("Iris") in a hit movie (City of Angels), a three-milliontelling album, Dizzy Up the Girl (their sixth), a clutch of Grammy nominations, a territying ubiquity on MTV, and the satisfaction of seeing the mikely name of the singer

LIVE

GOO GOO DOLLS UNIVERSITY OF LONDON UNION LONDON

John Rzeznik become a house-

hold word. All things considered, Goo Goo Dolls look unsurprisingly pleased with themselves when they first appear tonight, the second of two sold-out shows. They tell us they're here to have a good time, and courteously extend the hope that we'll have a good time too. A great deal of bouncing up and down ensues, both on stage and in front of it.

The three-piece lineup (Rzeznik, bass player Robby Takac and drummer Mike Malinin) is augmented by an extra guitarist and a keyboardist, and while the racket they whip

up is initially engaging enough, it cannot disguise, over the course of an underlably energetic hour or so, the wearyingly thin gruel that constitutes much of Goo Goo Dolls' canon. To look at them, you'd think 1992 had never ended - they resemble nothing so much as Soundgarden's roadies larking about during soundcheck - and their music displays a similar refusal to recognise that the world has kept on turning since "Nevermind". At their occasional best, Goo Goo Dolls almost evoke the ecstatic timefulness of the vastly underrated Seattle group The Posies: otherwise, they bear a disturbingly remarkable similarity to Ned's Atomic Dusthin, and it's difficult to think of any-

thing we need to hear less, at this point. Along with many of their ilk, what Goo Goo Dolls clearly aspire to is the ability to invest spirited post-punk rock'n'roll with a certain poetry and sensitivity—they indicated as much a while back by prevailing upon Paul Westerberg (erstwhile frontman of the incomparable Replacements) to write a song with them ("We are the Normal"). Westerberg is a more than worthwhile benchmark (and his imminent third solo album sounds something like a masterpiece), but while it's easy to imagine that Goo Goo Dolls will continue to entertain and invigorate crowds of drunk students until the earth spins into the sun and our Lord Beekebub calls us all home, it's some way harder to picture them coming up with anything anyone will remember beyond the fading of their last chord. ANDREW MUELLER

### Is the new medium the message?

The latest in hi-fi hype, DVD offers stunning quality of sound and vision. But with only a tiny number of titles, is there much to interest the music enthusiast?

we love to observe it being made: kevboard side in recitals, feasting on the sawing arms and ballooning cheeks of the orchestra. This is not indulgence; it's our way of physically experiencing music, of vicariously joining in. And when the process is invisible - as in an organ recital where the performer is  $\overline{h}$ idden in a loft - we feel cheated. The disembodied music of records and radio is something we have grown up with, but it is still - both figuratively and in practice - an aberration.

Such retrograde thoughts are now being harnessed for the biggest industrial push the world of musicvideo has ever known. While the man-in-the-street may be hazy about what "DVD" stands for, the media hack knows it stands for a marketing harrage. Digital Versatile Disc, it's said, will change our lives.

But we've heard such claims before, Remember "digital compact cassette" and the 12-inch laserdisc? Remember the "enhanced CD"? Failures all CD-Rom was once a bright hope in the classical music husiness, but is now a reference preserve. Recordable CDs may be doing well in the shops, but their long-term prospects are dubious. Even the mighty mini-disc has clouds oo its horizon.

Why should we take DVD more seriously? In the interests of science, I submit to a hard sell at Warners. Since I'm a technological idiot, the facts have first to be explained. A DV disc may look like a CD, but it contains seven times more digital information, in which visual and audio elements sit side by side; it offers music. film, still pictures, text and

**SIGHT** READINGS



MICHAEL CHURCH

visual menus. The picture quality and five-channel sound are, I am told, the best in existence.

The Warners men play two discs: Bruno Monsaingeon's Richter: The Enigma, and Adventures in Mobon Pictures' celebrated Swan Lake. Having previously watched the Richter film on VHS, I am ravished hy what I now see and hear, and it's undeniably convenient to he able to click to points in the pianist's life and to specific pieces of music, without laboriously winding on (or back) in the bope of finding the right place.

The pleasure of Matthew Bourne's wicked Swan Lake is similarly intensified, though I am, of course, seeing it on state-of-the-art machinery. And it's useful, again, to be able to find those evil male cygnets, or that wrenching apotheosis, at the click of a hutton.

The Richter film has been tricked out with all the menu-to-text-tosubtext games Warners can devise. Likewise Swan Lake. Click to the "character" of the prince's commoner-girlfriend, and click again to the dancer in the part, where she trained etc. But this sort of guff norfar easier to skim. Putting it on film price will surely fall.

seems pointless, until you remember the insane war being waged by electronics against print.

Now some questions. DVD may have "arrived", but how widespread is it? "There are already 250,000 DVD players in Europe." That's not many. "True, but in America, where it was launched 12 months earlier, there are now more than a million sets in private hands. We expect their growth to he exponential here as well." Who huys them? "Early adopters tend to be thirtysomething males with plenty of cash." Is there a danger of buying the wrong sort of machine and its becoming obsolete, like the Betamax? "No danger The machines have been devised by a cross-industry consortium."

When I ask if the present price of nearly £400 will drop over the next year or so, the reply is a rueful affirmative. They explain that though you can't play DVDs on a CD player, you can play CDs on a DVD player, which will make their sound quality even better, "So if you're thinking of buying a new CD player, far better to invest in DVD." But this brings us to the question of "product". Feature films apart, how many musical or operatic DVDs actually exist?

The faces lengthen, "By the end of 1999, there may be 50 in total, from all the record companies put together." Pathetic! "It's early days," they reply. "But we really need the press and retailers to take classical DVD as a serious category." Last week, in the Oxford Street branch of HMV, they found their beloved Swan Lake stuck in the porn section. Gathering that, in their parlance, I am a "laggard" as opposed to an "early adopter", they bring out their trump card: a portable DVD player including screen, not much bigger than a CD player. It's wonderful, and mally comes in a booklet, where it's I want one. But not yet. The £950



Adventures in Motion Pictures' 'Swan Lake' is intensified by DVD

Harmonia Mundi, where they thrust something called Watershed into my hands. This is described as "the first music DVD designed to totally utilise the medium's full capacity". Since the Harmonia Mundi office doesn't yet boast a DVD player, I take it to the Sony office and play it there. composer Roger Reynolds, allows me to deconstruct a 30-minute solo by the percussionist Steven Schick, but the menu-voyages seem forced and unnecessary. I would far rather glean the background information from an old-fashioned booklet.

Meanwhile, Sony has just brought out its own first classical DVDs: great Karajan performances tricked

Over now to the classical label out with yet more on-screen programme notes. And though these are, once again, old films, the quality of both pictures and sound is stunning. Sony's vice-president is bullish: "You can't look at a DVD without remembering how horrible VHS was by comparison." He believes that what he calls "high-end" people The first of its three pieces, by the \_ "older and more discriminating"

- will be induced by DVD to buy things they never would have considered before. That may be so, but it's still a moot point whether they will want to click into hiographies, or play around with camera angles in, for example, Nimbus's forth-

coming DVDs on selected pianists. On the other hand, DVD won't deal exclusively in visual games. for hire? "Not yet." Will it be possible fairy may not live.

Sony's spokesman reckons DVD-Audio - when it arrives - will he the ultimate answer to hi-fi 'dreams. "The reason some people still prefer vinyl to CD - provided they've got a £15,000 turntable - is that CDs cut out all the warmth and ambience of the original recording. DVD-Audio, with its huge digital capacity, will

Finally I join a band of veteran Gramophone subscribers at a meetthe-DVD-producers soirée. After being zapped with Richter, Swan Lake and the latest James Bond. they ask questions. Will DVD make their CD collections redundant? "No. The CD market is in huoyant shape." When will DVDs be available sent our credit cards. Otherwise the

to record on them? "Not for a long while yet." When will DVD-Audio hit the shops? "Maybe next year." Is it possible that the whole DVD eoterprise will flop? "No way. All the re-tailers are singing from the same hymn-sheet." That's a relief.

These people are all technofreaks, but it's clear that some are unrepentant laggards. One is a Chinese student who possesses a DV disc but as yet no machine to play it on. He'll wait for the price to fail. and the product to proliferate, before huying a machine. "That's fine by me," says a DVD magnate gamely. But, of course, it isn't fine at all. We must clap hands, have faith, and pre-

### THE COMPACT COLLECTION

ROB COWAN ON THE WEEK'S NEW CD RELEASES

HAVE YOU ever felt that a musical masterpiece is so utterly perfect that it could not possibly have been otherwise? I have, often, and one of my favourites is Mendelssohn's effervescent Italian Symphooy. But what did the composer himself think of the piece? Not much, apparently. In fact, he completely refashiooed the last three movements - and the only reason he didn't revise the first was because he felt prompted to rewrite it completely, but couldn't. Happily for us. Sir John Eliot Gardiner and the Vienna Philharmonic have prepared a spirited all-Mendelssohn CD that combines both the original and the revisioo. In between, there's a nicely sprung account of the Reformation Symphony - another work that the fastidious composer had his doubts about.

As to the "revised" Italian. first impressions are unfavourable. It all sounds too complex, too contrived - a lissom voungster trying to age prematurely. Mendelssohn had left his original score in London and was revising from memory. so perhaps he remembered wrongly. Or maybe I'm so wedded to the familiar that I am having trouble readjusting to a revision that posterity may well judge as superior. Time

will tell. Time will also sort out the nich and women from the boys and girls in the world of Minimalism, but I'll stick my neck out and suggest that when it does, Steve Reich will still be tops. Reich's early maturity yielded a select lineup of masterpieces, with the epic, finely structured Music for 18 Musicians as the best of the hunch. Reich and his Musicians made a famous record of it back in the Seventies. Theo there was the 1996 re-make for Nonesuch. and now RCA has released the

first versioo by a band in which Reich himself is not playing (albeit only for contractual reasons). Ensemble Modern trace the work's hour-long course from the initial throbbing pulses, through 11 related sections that shimmer, shake and shift perspectives almost without your ooticing. You can dance to it, enter a trance to it, or sit transfixed by the sbeer ingenuity of Reich's creative imagination. Reich performing Reich is

still a popular presence in the record stores, but the unique opportunity of hearing Benjamin Britten conduct Mahler will, for most of us. prove too tempting to miss. BBC Legends has just put out an amazing performance (in mono) of the Fourth Symphony that Britten gave with the LSO in Suffolk in 1961. Britten attends to every strand of scoring with the care of a master draughtsman, delving among inner details that are frequently muddled in rival recordings. The first movement is swift and bracing, the secood quietly unnerving, the third serenely heautiful, and the fourth touched with innoceoce. True, there are mioor imperfections (the soprano Joan Carlyle anticipates a cue in the finale), but as musical recreabons go, none that I can think of is more profoundly affecting. There are perceptively voiced bonuses both in stereo - in Lieder eines fahrenden Geselle, where Britten conducts for Anna Reynolds, and a charming pair of soogs from Das Knaben Wunderhorn with Elly Ameling

Mendelssohn/Gardiner: Deutsche Grammophon 459 Reich/Ensemble Modern: RCA 09026 68672 3 Mahler!Britten: BBC Legends BBCB 8004-2

as soloist.

### Wild things take over the hall

THERE WERE Wild Things loose in Symphony Hall the other night. Not just on stage, where Oliver Knussen's impeccable vocal team with appetising aplomb, unleashed its chorus of grunts and whoops and hisses and sizzles and groans - but in the bar, where a small apparition aged about five scudded around adults at waist height, a vision clad in dazzling blues and greens, swirling tartans and garish red moccasins, who might easily have been an escapee from Maurice Sendak's

unforgettable double bill. You could be forgiven for thinking Knussen a bit wild himself, though he is in fact the gentlest of things. He - like his London Sinfonietta has done as much for promoting the new music of others in this country as anybody. It was thus all the more welcome to hear him expounding his own. His collaborations with Maurice Sendak, Higglety Pigglety Pop! and Where the Wild Things Are, inhabits a rich, daunting world of childhood fantasy, in direct descent from the Brothers Grimm, Humperdinck, Ravel (l'Enfant et les Sortilèges) and Mussorgsky's Nursery Songs.

LIVE LONDON SINFONIETTA/ CBSO SYMPHONY HALL **BIRMINGHAM** 

What was so cheering was how well Pig-in-Sandwich-Boards, Cat-Milkman, Castle Yonder and Vanilla Pudding stand up in concert performance, even shorn of Sendak's looming, garish, monstrous stage décor. If there were moments when Knussen's magic perhaps just failed to crystallise (the car ride, Max's barcarolle, the forest transformation), others - musical clock, the spectacularly gloomy woodwind descent to the cellar, the Firebird-like Ash Tree prelude, the deliciously outra-

geous "Wild Rumpus"- mesmerised. Both operas are tales of individuation: Jennie, Sendak's dissatisfied Sealyham terrier craves "experience" as much as Max, the petulant child in Wild Things, demands adventure. The pathos lies in their conflicting security-craving. Textual audibility is crucial, and (despite oc-

riches it lacked tautness, and those

who doubt Delius's formal mastery

and hear only a meandering

progress, might change their minds



Simon Rattle: his energising return continues apace

casional over-milking) Knussen was blessed with two ingeniously lucid leads - Cynthia Buchan's Jennie, brilliantly characterised and enunciated across the registers, and Lisa Saffer's mood-changeable Max (plus gloriously obnoxious squealing

baby in *Higglety*) fabulously well-phrased. Mary King (Mama), David Wilson-Johnson and Stephen Richardson all had us in stitches in

Rattle's energising CBSO return continues apace. Harrison Birt-

wistle's hlasting Earth Dances, even with the upper sound chambers closed, tests the Symphony Hall acoustic as well as the oerves. Bits sear you like shrapnel, flying off door frames, banisters and rafters alike. Some "incident" engages the curiosity more than others, but the real pleasure emerges when Birtwistle eases off and really does "dance": a ghost of a waltz, a sneery metallic wobble. The late huild-up and final dissipation thrilled.

Gubaidulina's optimistic Violin Concerto, Offertorium, is a gorgeously contrasted work: the Bachian underlay, a passage of poignant "echoes" (redoleot of Schnittke), the touchingly Shostakovich-like harmonisations of the chorale with its echoes of the Orthodox rite, and the sheer variety and empathy of Vadim Repin's solo cadenza work all underlined the piece's moral, as well as musical, beauty and strength. The reduced forces in Kurtag's delicate, ritualistic trib-ute, Grabstein für Stefan, elicited sounds from the CBSO as tenderly haunting as anything in the evening

RODERIC DUNNETT

### ON THE AIR

ANTHONY PAYNE

A NUMBER of years ago there was us was that in spite of its incidental a hroadcast of the kind which only seemed possible on BBC Radio 3, giving us a unique opportunity to examine in depth a special aspect of the workings of a composer's mind. What we heard was a rare performance, possibly the first since its première, of the early version of Delius's In a Summer Garden, and it turned out to be revelatory. The work, in its final shape as most of us know it, is one of the pinnacles of late romantic musical poetics, perfect in all details, utterly unpre-

composer who appears to improvise

his pieces, astonishingly cogent in

What the original version taught

its formal dialectic.

after observing how ruthlessly the composer cut in essentials and how unerringly he retained meaningful asides. Of all late romantic masters Delius is one of the most deserving of such scrutiny since his methods have rarely been subjected to hard analysis, and have all too often been dismissed as mindless. dictable io structure, yet for a

In the light of that old broadcast. it was fascinating to explore further the thought processes that make Delius's art uniquely mysterious. The story of how the hlind compos-

er set the young Eric Fenby to work on an early piece of his in order to break him in and see what he was capable of, is known to all readers of Fenby's hiographical masterpiece Delius As I knew Him. That work was A Poem of Life and Love, dating from 1918, and it was eventually to be transformed some 10 years later into A Song of Summer

with Fenby's aid as amanuensis. On Tuesday evening both pieces were performed in BBC Radio 3's Composer of the Week and, once again, we could witness Delius's uncanny instinct for bringing structural concision to material that was in danger of sprawling.

A Poem of Life and Love was being given its first ever perfor- there is little of musical expression

mance by Vernon Handley and the and structure in composers of young BBC Concert Orchestra, and it would have confirmed the doubts of those for whom Delius's thought straggles in inconsequentially. But relieved of much untidy and unfocused material, it becomes a lyrie masterpiece as A Song of Summer, now serene, now ecstatically striv-

ing in perfect equilibrium. Another aspect of creative progress was examined in Radio 3's weekly series Sound Stories. In this case it was the characteristics of music written by composers who have reached great old age and the week ended with some of the music Vaughn Williams composed in his eighties. I sometimes think that

and middle years which cannot be generally understood, but that old age brings to creators a command of such mysteries as can only be fully graphed by those who, too, have left their middle years behind. Such at least seems possible with the movingly distanced vision of Vaughn Williams's Ninth Symphony, whose puzzling finale closed the programme. We feel here that musical symbols from Vaughn Williams's past which once had sensuous impact, have now been fined down and placed in a strangely elliptical context. Perhaps bodily experience was now a matter of memory leaving the spirit in a new relationship with intellect.



### **NEW FILMS**

APRILE (15) Director: Nanni Moretti Starring: Nanni Moretti, Silvia Nono

More meta-documentary shenanigans from Nanni Moretti, a sort of Roman Woody Allen complete with the same nerdy patter, the same self-reflexive neuroses. His skittish, mercurial Aprile freewheels through a three-year period in Italian politics. Meantime, running as a kind of sunny counterpoint, goes the director's will he won'tbe intention to make a musical about a Trotskvite pastry chef. Impossible to pigeon-hole, Aprile dances to its own realist/absurdist rhythms, before bowing out with a finale that's both ridiculous and charming. Limited release

The Independent 19 March 1999

ARLINGTON ROAD (15) Director: Mark Pellington

Starring: Jeff Bridges, Tim Robbins Trouble's a-brewing behind the manicured suburban lawns of Mark Pellington's intriguingly staged paranoia thriller, which sees Jeff Bridges' college prof becoming suspicious about the antics of his outwardly respectable neighbour (Tim Robbins). Meanwhile, Pellington goes big on

skewed camera angles, yet rings too few changes in his film's familiar territory. With Joan Cusack and

A NIGHT AT THE ROXBURY (15)

Director: John Fortenberry Starring: Will Ferrell, Chris Kattan

Hope Davies. Countrypoide

Fortenberry's indulgent showcase for Saturday Night Live favourites Ferrell and Kattan is so bovine that it moos. Here come our imbecilic heroes: squabbling with daddy (Dan Hedaya) and cruising the mall-spaces of Nineties LA, while one ham-fisted comedy sequence follows another: Think Dumb and Dumber without the wit. One whole night. It only feels that long, Countrywide

SEUL CONTRE TOUS (18)

Director: Gasper Noé Starring: Philippe Nahon, Blandine Lenoir Welcome to "shit-hole" France. Your guide: a socionathic butcher (Nahon) who is pushed over the edge when he figures out that someone has abused his daughter. The style: crash-zooms and in-yer-face close-ups. Less straight cinema than a kind of whiplashing fairground ride, Seul Contre Tous is an attention-grabbing debut for the multitalented Noé. But its harsh exposé of modern France is compromised by its creator's relentlessly gimmicky style. Limited release

SOUTHPAW (15) Director: Liam McGrath Starring: Francis Barrett

This coarse-grained, warm-hearted film charts the rise of 10-year-old light-welter weight Francis Barrett, an Irish traveller with dreams of Olympic glory. Bobbing around the caravan sites of County Galway, Liam McGrath's documentary gently spotlights anti-traveller prejudice while paying lip-service to the views of local eccentrics. Southpow is a shade soft in its centre, but it's impeccably well-intentioned. Limited release

WAKING NED (PG) Ofrector: Kirk Jones

Starring: Ian Bannen, David Kelly

Good news first: Ned, a salt-of-the-earth resident of Tully in rural Ireland, has just won the lottery. Bad news: Ned is dead, and the lottery rep is already on his way. Cue a rattle-bag of comedic misadventure as two skallywags scheme to get their paws on the loot. The film has a zesty undertow of black comedy, but is too air-brushed for its own good. Country poide

**Xan Brooks** 

### THE INDEPENDENT RECOMMENDS

#### THE FIVE BEST FILMS

Pleasantville (12) Two Nineties teenagers are magicked into the world of a favourite Fifties sitcom and begin to exert a dramatic influence on its conformist black-and-white idyll. A witty, inventive

parable (right).



Festen (15) Danish director Thomas Vinterberg's superlative black comedy centres on the 60th birthday of a family patriarch who finds himself at the heart of dark secrets that unexpectedly emerge.

The Thin Red Line (15) Terrence Malick returns to the screen after a 20-year absence with a hugely amhitious film about the battle of Guadalcanal. A war movie of a sort, though what that sort might be is uncertain.

Affliction (15) Paul Schrader's bleak study in fatherhood and fatalism, adapted from Russell Banks's novel. stars Nick Noite as a man struggling to escape the influence of his violent dad (James Coburn).

Shakespeare in Love (15) This enjoyable romp suggests how romance fired Shakespeare with the creative inspiration for Romeo and Juliet. With a multi-star cast.

ANTRONY OUTNIN

#### THE FIVE BEST PLAYS

Trollus and Cressida (Olivier, NT, London) This theatre and this Shake speare play are made for each other, a fact proved by the masterly sweep and precision of focus in Trevor Numn's gifted production (right). To 19 May



Shockheaded Peter (Lyric Hammersmith, London) The Smwelpeter stories, served up as an unforgettably gory feast of the comic macabre in this mordantly inventive evening of music theatre. To 10 Apr

Copenhagen (Duchess Theatre, London) Michael Frayn's profouod and haunting meditation on science, mortality and the mysteries of human motivation. To 7 Aug

The Dispute (Poole Arts Centre) Neil Bartlett's devilishly good production of

Marivaux's clever tragi-comedy. 23-27 Mar Volpone

(5wan Theatre, 5tratford) Comedies doo't come any funnier or more astringent than Ben Jonson's brilliant dissection of avaricious, over-reaching egotism. To 26 Mar

PAIR TAVIOR

GATESHEAD

Adams (12); Arlington Road (15); Madeline (U); A Bug's Life (U)

ABC CLARKSTON ROAD (0141-637 2641); Arlington Road (15); Madeline (U); You've Got M@il (PG); The Rugrats Movie (U); A Bug's Life (U); Patch Adams (12);

ABC SAUCHIEHALL STREET

(0141-332 1592); Arlington Road (15); A Bug's Life (U); A Night at

(13); A Bug's Life (U); A A Right at the Rootbury (15); The Rugrats Movie (I); Jack Frost (PG); Shake-speare in Love (15); Patch Adams (12); This Year's Love (18)

THE BOMBAY CINEMA (0141-419

CALEDONIAN GROSVENOR

(0141-339 4298); # (Pi) (15): Payback (18); A Bug's Life (U); Ed Wood (15); The Rugrats Movie (U); Saving Private Ryan (15); La Vica è Bella (PG); Paths of Giory (NC); The Fintstones (II)

Got M@ii (PG): The Rugrars Movie (U); Patch Adams (12)

SPRINGFIELD OUAY (08705-

050007): Patch Adams (12); Sav-ing Private Ryan (15); Pleasantville

A Night at the Rodoury (15): This Year's Love (18); Madeline (U);

WIRGIN FORGE PARKHEAD (0541-555136); The Rugrats Movie (U); Waking Ned (PG); The Thin Red Line (15); A Bug's Life (U); Ar-lington Road (15); Jack Frost (PG): Payback (18); This Year's Love (18); Madeline (U); Patch Adams

HARROGATE
ODEON (08705-050007); Madeline (U): Antz (PG): Babe: Pig in 
the City (U): The Rugrats Movie (U): 
Pleasantville (12): A Bug's Life (U): 
The Thin Red Line (15): Patch 
Adams (12): Grease (20th Anniversary Edition) (PG): Payback 
(18): Shakespeare in Love (15)

HARTLEPOOL HARTLEPOOL WARNER VILLAGE

HARTLEPOOL WARNER VILLAGE (01429-263 263): Payback (18); The Prince of Egypt (U); Madeline (U); A Bug's Life (U); The Rugrats Movie (U); Shakespeare in Love (15): Babe: Pig in the City (U); Patch Adams (12); Urban Legend (18): The Thin Red Line (15); Pleasantyfile (12); You've Got Mobil (PG): Arlington Road (15):

M@il (PG): Artington Road (15): Waking Ned (PG)

888990); Jack Frost (PG); Ar

(12); Pleasantville (12)

Payback (18)

[08705-050007); Mi line (U): The Thin Red Line (15): Payback (18): A Bug's Life (U): Pleasantville (12): This Year's Love (18): Waking Ned (PG): You've

0722); Arzon (PG)

The Funtstones (U)

#### THE FIVE BEST SHOWS

Jackson Pollock (Tate Gallery)

Big retrospective for the wild hero of Abstract Expressionism (going oo Old Master). The build-up is slow and the end is sorry, but the brief "drip" period deserves every superlative. To 6 Jun

Portraits by Ingres (National Gallery) Some of the most intense portraiture ever. Exquisite melanges of flesh and fabric. dreams of sex and money (right). To 25 Apr



Patrick Caulfield (Hayward Gallery)

The modern object-world made luminous, Caulfield is a virtuoso of many styles, and this retrospective offers the range - notably those fat, laconic outlines flooded with translucent colour. To 11 .1pr

Oppé Watercolour Collection (Whitworth, Manchester) Classic British watercolours made largely outdoors.

including Alexander Cozens' sketches, Constable, John Sell Cotman and Francis Towne. To 5.4m

**Richard Deacon** (Tate, Liverpool)

Chunky, curvaceous assemblages of wood, metal, and plastic by the noted sculptor. To 16 May

TOM LUBROCK

### GENERAL RELEASE

THE ACID HOUSE (18)

A trio of interrelated shorts culled from the stories of Irvine Welsh, The Acid House plays out in the landscape of inner-city Edinburgh and darts with hio between a range of moods and tones.

AFFLICTION (15)

See The Independent Recommends, above,

If nothing else, this computer-animated trifle is surely the most unlikely Woody Allen movie we will ever see. The nerd icon allegedly re-wrote the bulk of his dialogue to provide the voice of worker-ant Z. who breaks out from his totalitarian rut when be falls in with Princess Bala (Sharon Stone).

BELOVED (15)

Jonathan Demme's adaptation of Toni Morrison's multi-layered novel was always going to make for an uneasy marriage; hopping shakily between upfront dramatics and down-in-the-mix mysticism. Still, heartfelt acting and a vibrant visual sense paper over all manner of cracks.

A BUG'S LIFE (U)

circus in an effort to save his community from setting goes hand-in-hand with Gerald Packer's marauding grasshoppers.

CENTRAL STATION (15)

Rio's teeming terminus serves as the launchpad PATCH ADAMS (12) for Walter Salles's Oscar-nominated Brazilian fable about a retired schoolmarm and her abandoned nine-year-old charge. The trip takes in all facets of Brazil's displaced and poverty stricken culture, yet Salles steadfastly refuses to make any heavy handed political point.

CLASS TRIP (LA CLASSE DE NEIGE) (15)

Pitypoor Nicolas, a bed-wetting schoolboy fantasist who is spirited off on a school skiing trip. Claude Alex De La Iglesia's quasi-sequel to Lynch's Wild Miller's pungent child's-eye psycho-drama switches nervously between stark naturalism enough tension to keep the film going.

DON'T GO BREAKING MY HEART (PG) Don't Go Breaking my Heart wastes the skills of ER's Anthony Edwards as a Yankee sports therapist adrift in Blighty. It also overplays the supposed charms of Jenny Seagrove as the widowed mum he gets it together with. This romantic weepie wheezes on towards a finale so predictable

FLOZARETH (15)

Shekhar Kapur's follow-up to Bondit Queen is another tale of a female figurehead struggling to gain purchase in a male world. But Kapur largely neglects the opportunities for fun in a story of independence triumphing over cruelty.

that you'd bave to be dead not to see it coming.

ENEMY OF THE STATE (15)

Will Smith's fall-guy DA teams up with Gene Hackman's pensioned-off Pentagon warhorse, probes a political cover-up and gets embroiled in all manner of Big Brother type trouble.

ESTEN (THE CELEBRATION) (15) The Independent Recommends, above.

HIDEOUS KINKY (151

Through the backdrop of 1970s Morocco treads Kate Wastet's single-mum, her two daughters unwillingly in tow. Winslet does well with a change-of-pace role and the child stars are startlingly good.

HILARY AND JACKIE (15)

Pull-throttle playing from Rachel Griffiths and Emily Watson sustains Anand Tucker's warts-andbiopic of the Du Pré sisters.

HOW STELLA GOT HER GROOVE BACK (15) Essentially this is Shirley Valentine with an Afro-American spin, but Angela Bassett works hard to make an impression among the slide-show of thist prochure visuals.

ACK FROST (PG)

The trajectories of two stars meet for an instant On the way down goes Michael Keaton as 8 selfthrested blues man who dies and gets reincarnated a snowman. And on the way up is The Full Monty's Mark Addy as his best mate. They meet. they pass and formula fun is had be all.

LIFE IS BEAUTIFUL (LA VITA È BELLA) (PG) In Roberto Benigni's comedy the writer-director takes centre-stage as a clowning Jewish bookseller in fascist Italy. He is spirited off to a death-camp and strives to convince his son that it's nothing more than an eccentric game.

LITTLE VOICE (15)

Holed up in her bedroom, Jane Horrocks perfects Shirley Bassey/Judy Garland impersonations. Bracing black comedy, Horrocks's vocal pyrotechnics, plus a marvellously weighted turn from Michael Caine push Little Voice through to the final curtain. With Ewan McGregor.

THE OPPOSITE OF SEX (18)

Don Roos' harum-scarum trip through American gender politics leans heavily on a fire-cracker performance. Christina Ricci shines as the dastardly teen whose precocious antics send the adults (Martin Donovan, Lisa Kudrow) into a state.

PAINTED ANGELS (15)

The angels are whores; the paint from the gloomier end of the palette. Jon Sanders' revisionist restern revolves around a frontier brothel presider A Bug's Life sees humble insect Flik joining a flea over by Brenda Fricker's madam. Naturalistic evocative visuals, though the downbeat handling makes it slow-going at times.

Through the hallowed halls of medical college goes Hunter "Patch" Adams (Robin Williams); a shock-doc who has the patients in stitches while giving a collective bernia to the stuffy Establishment. It's like the ultimate distillation of the ultimate Robin Williams movie: the life sucked out and replaced by syrup.

**PERDITA DURANGO (18)** 

ot Heart is a strutting Tex-Mex caper, tequila-ed to the gills and running on a kind of posturing and florid dream sequences and, while there's 8 lot wackiness. Rosie Pérez acquits herself well as the to admire in Class Trip, there's ultimately not heroine who abducts a pair of all-American virgins. It's camp, garish and annoyingly entertaining.

What sustains the film is the pure ingenuity of its central conceit, its ongoing "mathematics is the language of nature" mantra and the too-cool-

for-school demeanour. PLEASANTVILLE (12)

See The Independent Recommends, above. SAVING PRIVATE RYAN (15)

In Steven Spielberg's Second World War drama Captain John Miller (Tom Hanks) is dispatched with his squad on a compassionate mission to seek out a young private behind enemy lines and return him home to safety.

SHAKESPEARE IN LOVE (15) See The Independent Recommends, above.

THE THIN RED LINE (15) See The Independent Recommends, above.

THIS YEAR'S LOVE (18) A cast of Britain's finest (Kathy Burke, lan Hart et al) weave through David Kane's Camden-set essay on urban romance. Although witty and

well-observed, the film cranks a sublime one-hour

teleplay into double its natural length.

TITANIC TOWN (15) In Troubles-hit Belfast, circa 1972, the IRA and British forces are taking potshots at each other, with civilians dying in the crossfire. To the rescue comes Julie Walters' concerned local mum, who lobbies for a ceaseline. For a film implicitly about rage, waste and human passions, it's a little low on dramatic comph.

URBAN LEGEND (18)

Jamie Blanks's stalk-and-slash romp clones Scream's in-jokes in much the same way that its campus killer mimics the crimes of popular myth. The result is a strangely inconsequential bloodbath.

YOU'VE GOT MAIL (PG) Director Nora Ephron ushers Tom Hanks and Meg

Ryan through a contrived, old-fashioned romantic comedy that is zapped out of its rut by a shrewd Internet plot hook.

man or come cost

ABERDEEN ABENDEEN
ODEON (08705-050007); There's
Something About Mary (15); You've
Got M@il (PG); The Rugrats Movie
(U); Patch Adams (12); A Bug's Life
(U); Waking Ned (PG); Payback (18);
Pleasantville (12); The Thin Red
Line (15); Madeline (U)

**CINEMA** 

COUNTRYWIDE

VIRGIN (0541-202050); Jack Frost VIRGIN (0541-202059); Jack Frost (PG); Urban Legend (18); Goodfel-las (18); Patch Adems (12); The Thin Red Line (15); The Rugrats Movie (U); Walking Ned (PG); Shakespeare in Love (15); Madeline (U); Arlington Road (15); This Year's Love (18); You've Got M@il (PG); A Bug's Life (U); Pleasantville (12); Payback (18)

AYR
ODEON (08705-050007); My
Name is Joe (15); A Bug's Life (U);
Pleasantville (12); Antz (PG);
You've Got M@il (PG); Godzilla
(PG); The Thin Red Line (15); The
Rugrats Movie (U); Madeline (U);
Small Soldiers (PG); Payback (18); Patch Adams (12)

BARROW-IN-FURNESS
APOLLO ASTRA (01229-825354);
The Rugrats Movie (U): The Thin
Red Line (15); A Bug's Life (U): Pay-back (18); There's Something
About Mary (15); Shakespeare in Love (15); The Prince of Egypt (U); A Night at the Roobury (15); Patch Adams (12); Waking Ned (PG)

MAC (0121-440 3838); Hilary And Jackie (15); La Classe de Neige (15); The Apple (Sib) (PG)

ODEON (08705-050007); Madeline (U): You've Got M@il (PG); The Ru-grats Movie (U): Shakespeare in Love (15): Jack Frost (PG): Pleas-antylle (12): Fear and Loathing in Las Vegas (18): The Exercist (25th Auniversary Renelesse) (18): The Parent Trap (PG): Waking Ned (PG); Artington Road (15): Patch Adams (12); A Bug's Life (U); A Night at the Roxbury (15); The Thin Red Line (15); The Prince of Egypt (U):

Urban Legend (18) ARCADIAN CENTRE VIRGIN (0541-555177); A Bug's Life (U): Pleasantville (12); Waking Ned (PG); This Year's Love (18); The (PG): This Year's Love (18): The Thin Red Line (15): You've Got M@il (PG): Jack Frost (PG): Ar-lington Road (15); Shakespeare in Love (15): Payback (18): Madeline (U); Urban Legend (18): The Rugrats Movie (U); Patch Adams (12)

BLACKPOOL ABC CHURCH STREET (01253-

AGE CHURCH STREET (01253-627207); The Rugrats Movie (U); Arlington Road (15); A Bug's Life (U); Jack Frost (PG); Patch Adams (12); A Night et the Roxbury (15)

ODEON (08705-050007); Payback (18); Babe: Pig in the City (U); Urban Legend (18); You've Got M@il (PG): Patch Adams (12); A Bug's Life (PG); Patch Adams (12); A Bog's Life (U); A Night at the Roxbury (15); Antz (PG); Arlington Road (15); The Horse Whisperer (PG); Waking Ned (PG); Madeline (U); Pleasantville (12); Paulle (U); The Thin Red Line (15); Small Soldiers (PG); Shake-speare in Love (15); The Rugrats Movie (U); Grease (20th Anniversary Edition) (PG); Little Voice (15)

BOLDON COLLIERY
VIRGIN (0541-550512); The Thin
Red Line (15); Arlington Road (15);
Lal Badshah (PG); A Bug's Life (U);
Pleasantville (12); Waklun Ned
(PG); The Parent Trap (PG); Jack
Frost (PG); The Rugrais Movie (U);
You've Got M@II (PG); Urban Legend (18); Shalespeare in Love (15);
A Night at the Roadury (15);
Patch Adams (12); Madeline (U);
This Year's Love (18)

BOLTON
VIRGIN MEGAPLEX (Valley Center-tainment) (0870-907 0714): Little Volce (15); Payback (18); A Bug's Life (U); Saxing Private Ryan (15); Shake-speare in Love (15): The Rugrats Movie (U); This Year's Love (18); Pleasantville (12); Jack Frost (PG); Madeline (U); Lal Sadshah (PG); Ar-Ington Road (15); You've Got M@II (PG); The Truman Show (PG); Patch Adams (12); Waking Ned (PG); Antz (PG); The Trim Red Line (15); Urban Legend (18); The Parent Trap (PG); A Night at the Rosbury (15)

WARNER VILLAGE (01204

669988); Shahhed-e-Mohabbat (NC); Urban Legend (18); Waking (NC); Urban Legend (18); Waking Ned (PG); Saving Private Ryan (15); Little Voice (15); Arlington Road (15); Shakespeare in Love (15); The Rugrats Movie (U); A Night er the Rootbury (15); Jack Frost (PG); You've Got M@il (PG); A Bug's Life (U); Panch Adams (12); Elizabeth (15); Pleasantville (12): Epsenv of the State (15): Lock, Stock & Two Smoking Barrels (18); The Thin Red Line (15); This Year's Love (18); Flubber (U); Payback (18)

BOOTLE
SWITCH ISLAND LEISURE PARK
(0151-525 2020); This Year's Love
(18); Shakespeare in Love (15);
Madeline (U); Pleasantville (12);
Antz (PG); Vou've Got M@fi (PG);
Patch Adams (12); Arlington Road
(15); Waking Ned (PG); A Night at
the Roobury (15); Saving Private
Ryan (15); The Thin Red Line (15);
Urban Legend (18); A Bug's Life
(U); Babe; Pig in the City (U); Great
Expectations (15); Jack Frost (PG);
Little Voice (15); Payback (18); The
Rugrats Movie (U) Rugrats Movie (U)

BROMBOROUGH
ODEON (08705-050007); Small Soldiers (PG); Urban Legend (18); A Bug's Life (U); Lock, Stock & Two Smoking Barrels (18); Payback (18); You've Got M@ll (PG); Little Voice (15); This Year's Love (18); Arlington Road (15): Jack Frost (PG); Saving Private Ryan (15); A Night at the Roxbury (15); Madeline (U); Patch Adams (12); Pleasantville (12); Waking Ned (PG); The Thin Red Line (15); Shakespeare in Love (15); The Parent Trap (PG); Babe: Pig in the City (U); The Rugracs Movie (U)

BROMBOROUGH

BURNLEY HOLLYWOOD PARK (01282-456222); A Bug's Life (U); This Year's Love (18); Artington Road (15); Payback (18); Shakespeare in Love (15); Saving Private Ryan (15); Madeline (U); Babe; Pig in the City (U); Waking Ned (PG); The Thin Red Line (15); Lock, Stock & Two Smok-ing Barrels (18); The Rugrats Movie (U); A Night at the Rosbury (15); Jack Frost (PG); Patch Adams (12)

WARNER VILLAGE (0161-766 2440); Flubber (U); The Thin Red Line (15); Very Bad Things (18); A Bug's Life (U); Jack Frost (PG); Sav-Bug's Life (U): Jack Frost (PG): Sav-ing Private Ryan (15): A Night at the Roubury (15): Arfington Road (15); Little Volce (15): Patch Adams (12): Enemy of the State (15); Eliz-abet (15); Walking Ned (PG); You've Got M@il (PG); Shakespeare in Love (15): Urban Legend (18): Madeline (U): Payback (18): Pieasantville (12): The Ruyrats Movile (II) (12); The Rugrats Movie (U)

CITY CINEMA (01228-514654); Patch Adams (12); Payback (18); You've Got M@il (PG); Madeline (U); Elizabeth (15); Jack Frost (PG)

LONSDALE CINEMAS (01228-514654): The Rugrats Movie (U); Pleasantville (12); Arlington Road (15); A Bug's Life (U); Elizabeth (15); Shakespeare in Love (15); The Thin Red Line (15)

ODEON (08705-050007): The Parent Trap (PG); Pleasantville (12): Madeline (U); Parch Adams (12); Shakespeare in Love (15); A Bug's Shakespeare in Love (15): A Bug's Life (U): The Acid House (18); Wak-ing Ned (PG): The Rugrats Movie (U):

Payback (18); The Thin Red Line (15) VIRGIN (0541-555158); Arting-VIRGIN (0541-555158); Arting-ton Road (15); You've Got M@II (PG); The Parent Trap (PG); This Year's Love (18); The Thin Red Line (15); Pauch Adams (12); Pleas-antville (12); A Bug's Life (U); The Rugrats Movie (U); Waking Ned (PG); Shakespeare in Love (15)

CHESTERFIELD
CINEWORLD, ALMA LEISURE
PARK (01246-277000): Shakespeare in Love (15); A Bug's Life
(U): Urban Legend (18); A Night at
the Roubury (15); Pleasantville (12);
This Year's Love (18); The Rugrats
Movie (U); Arlington Road (15); The
Secret Garden (U); Saving Private
Ryan (15); Jack Frost (PG); You've
Got M@ll (PG): Madeline (II):

Got M@il (PG); Madeline (U); Small Soldlers (PG); Patch Adams (12); Waking Ned (PG); Dancing at Lughnasa (PG); The Thin Red Line (15); Payback (18); Little Voice (15) CLYDEBANK
UCI (0990-888990); A Night at the
Rosbury (15); The Truman Show
(PG): Saving Private Ryan (15);
Madeline (U); The Rugrats Movie
(U); The Thin Red Line (15); You've
Got M@il (PG); Arlington Road (15);
Waking Ned (PG): Lictle Voice (15);
Jack Frost (PG): Hum Aapike Dil
Mein Rehte Hain (PG); The Prince
of Egypt (U); Shakespeare in Love
(15); Elizabeth (15); Payback (18);
A Bug's Life (U); Pleasantville (12);
Urban Legend (18); This Year's Love
(18); Patch Adams (12) CLYDEBANK

(18); Patch Adams (12) COVENTRY ODEON (08705-050007); Artington Road (15); Patch Adams (12); The Prince of Egypt (U); The Mask of Zorro (PG); Madeline (U); The Thin Red Line (15); Small SolPayback (18); Waking Ned (PG); Jack Frost (PG); The Rugrass Movie (U); The X-Files (15); The Acid House (18); Pleasantville (12); Shake-speare in Love (15); Dr Dollttle (PG)

UCI 10 (0990-888990); The Rugrats Movie (U); This Year's Love (18); The Mask of Zorro (PG); (18): The Mask of Zorro (PG); Pleasantrille (12); Little Voice (15): Madeline (U); Saving Private Ryan (15); Elizabeth (15); Arlington Road (15); Shakespeare in Love (15); Patch Adams (12); You've Got M@R (PG); A Night at the Roxbury (15); The Tuman Show (PG); Jack Frost (PG); The Thin Red Line (15); Urban Legend (18); A Bug's Life (U); Victory (15); Payback (18); The Mighty (PG); Mighty Joe Young (PG); Waking Ned (PG)

DONCASTER ODEON (08705-050007); Saving Private Ryan (15); Sense and Sen-sibility (U); Madeline (U); Patch Adams (12); Urban Legend (18); Payback (18)

WARNER VILLAGE (01302-371371): Pleasantville (12); Payback (18); Urban Legend (18): The Rugrats Movie (U); Patch Adams (12); Waking Ned (PG); Artington Road (15); You've Got M@ff (PG); The Thin Red Line (15): A Bug's Lire (U); Jack Frost (PG); Madeline (U); Shakespeare in Love (15); Flubber (U) DUNDEE grats Movie (U): You've Got M@il

House (18): Pleasantville (12); Waking Ned (PG); Lock, Stock & Two Smoking Barrels (18); The Exordist (25th Anniversary Rerelease) (18); The Parent Trap (PG): Arlington Road (15) ing Private Ryan (15): Pleasantville (12): Jack Frost (PG): You've Got M@B (PG); Arlington Road (15); Waking Ned (PG); Shakespeare in Love (15): The Truman Show (PG): The Thin Red Line (15): A Bug's Life (U); Urban Legend (16): Little Voice (15): Antz (PG); La Vita è Bella (PG): EDINBURGH ABC FILM CENTRE (0131-228

PG); A Bug's Life (U); Payback

(18); The Thin Red Line (15); atch Adams (12); Antz (PG): The Acid

ns (12); Antz (PG); The Acid

1638): This Year's Love (18): Paws (PG): The Rugrats Movie (U): Patch Adams (12): Shakespeare in Love (15): You've Got M@il (PG): A Night at the Rodbury (15); A Bug's Life (U) ABC WESTER HAILES (0131-453 2492); Waking Ned (PG); The Thin Red Line (15); Jack Frost (PG); The Rugrats Movie (U); This Year's Love

(18): A Night at the Roobury (15): Pleasantville (12): Madeline (U): You've Got M@il (PG): A Bug's Life (U): Patch Adams (12): Arlington Road (15): Shakespeare in Love (15): Urban Legend (18) CAMEO (0131-228 4141); The Last Days of Disco (15); Seul Con-tre Tous (1 Stand Alone) (18); Star Trek: Insurrection (PG); Psycho (15); Lal Baadshah (PG); The Thin Red Line (15); The Add House (18);

is Joe (15) DOMINION (0131-447 4771); Arlington Road (15); Hilary and Jackie (15); Shakespeare in Love (15); Waking Ned (PG); A Bug's Life (II) Life (U)

Central Station (15); My Name

FILMHOUSE (0131-228 2688); Affliction (15); Festen (15); Aprile (12); Dark Victory (NC); Golden Balis (18); Affliction (15); Lotte in Weimer (NC); Antz (PG); Bicycleran (U); Aprile (12); La Vita è Bella (PG)

ODEON (08705-050007); Lock, ODEON (08705-050007); Lock, Stock & Two Smoking Barrels (18); Waking Ned (PG); A Bug's Life (U); The Rugrats Movie (U); This Year's Love (18); The Parent Trap (PG); Small Soldiers (PG): The Exorcist (25th Anniversary Rerelease) (18); The Thin Red Line (15); Pleasantville (12); Payback (18); Madeline (U); The Mask of Zorro (PG); Patch Adams (12)

UCI (0990-888990); Enemy of the State (15); Patch Adams (12); Pleasantville (12); Madeline (U); Urban Legend (18); Jack Frost (PG); A Night at the Roobury (15); Saving Private Ryan (15); A Bug's Life (U); The Rugrats Movie (U); Elizabeth (15); Payback (18); Shakespeare in Love (15); Arington Road (15); Little Voice (15); This Year's Love (18); The Thin Red Line (15); The Truman Show (PG); Waking Ned (PG); Show (PG); Waking Ned (PG); You've Got M@II (PG); La Waris

FALKERK ABC CINEMA (01324-631713): Ask Cinema (UIS24-051/13): The Rugrats Movie (U); Payback (18): Madeline (U); A Night at the Rowbury (15): Patch Adams (12); A Bug's Life (U): Saving Private

BOROUGH TRINITY ARTS CENTRE (01427-810710); Ronin (15); Tintin and the Mystery of Shark Island (NC) dlers (PG); A Bug's Life (U);

GATESHEAD
UCI 11 METROCENTRE (0990-888990): Payback (18): You've Got M@il (PG); The Thin Red Line (15): Waking Ned (PG); Aarzoo (PG); The Rugrats Movie (U); Shakespeare in Love (15); Little Woke (15); A Night at the Rootuny (15); Jack Frost (PG); Mighty Joe Young (PG); Urban Legend (18); Saving Private Ryan (15); Elizabeth (15); This Year's Love (18); Patch Adams (12); Arfington Road (15); EDEN COURT THEATRE (01463-234274); Hideous Kinky (15); Your Friends and Neighbors (18)

CALEDONIAN CINEMAS (01463-233302): The Rugrats Movie (U): Patch Adams (12): Little Voice (15): This Year's Love (18): A Bug's Life (U): 101 Dalmatians (U): The Tru-man Stoom (PG) man Show (PG) WARNER VILLAGE (01463-

WARNER VILLAGE (01463-711147); Payback (18); Shake-speare in Love (15); Patch Adams (12); A Bug's Life (U); Flubber (U); You've Got M@il (PG); Saving Pri-vate Ryan (15); Pleasantville (12); The Rugrats Movie (U); Madeline (U); The Thin Red Line (15); Jack Frost (PG); Arlington Road (15); Waking Ned (PG) ABC CINEMA (0113-245 2665); The Rugrats Movie (U): Jack Frost (PG): Shakespeare in Love (15); Saving Private Ryan (15); Patch Adams (12); A Night at the Rox-

COTTAGE ROAD CINEMA (0113-230 2562): The Thin Red Line (15): Madeline (U): The Rugrats

HYDE PARK (0113-275 2045); The Opposite of Sex (18); The Eel (Unagi) (18); The Big Sleep (15); Akira (12)

LOUNGE (0113-230 2562); Shake-

(12); A Bug's Life (U) ODEON (08705-050007); Les Mis érables (12): Pleasantville (12): You've Got M@il (PG): A Bug's Life (U): Arlington Road (15): Madeline (U); The Thin Red Line (15); Waking Ned (PG); Payback (18)

WARNER VILLAGE (0113-279 9855): Patch Adams (12); Payback (18); Saving Prhate Ryan (15); Very Bad Things (18); Shakespeare in Love (15); A Bug's Life (U); Flubber (15): A Bug's Life (U): Flub-ber (U): Urban Legend (18): You'we Got M@il (PG): This Year's Love (18): Waking Ned (PG): Pleas-antville (12): Little Volce (15): Ar-lington Road (15): The Thin Red Line (15): Madeline (U): The Ru-grats Movie (U): Jack Frost (PG)

ODÉON FREÉMENS PARK (08705-050007); Saving Private Ryan (15): The Rugrats Movie (U); You've Got M@il (PG): Walking Ned (PG); Arlington Road (15): Pleasantville (12): Madeline (U); Jack Frost (PG): Urban Legend (18); Patch Adams (12); This Year's Love (18): Payback (18): Small Soldiers (PG); Shakespeare in Love (15); A Night at the Roxbury (15): Babe: Pig in the City (U); The Privoe of Egypt (U): A Bug's Life (U): ODEON FREEMENS PARK of Egypt (U); A Bug's Life (U); Lat Badshah (PG)

WARNER VILLAGE (0116-282 7733); You've Got M@ll (PG); Elizabeth (15): Jack Frost (PG); Shakespeare in Love (15); Waking Ned (PG); The Rugrats Movie (U); This Year's Love (18): A Bug's Life (U); The Thin Red Line (15); Urban Lecard (19): Brock Ade (U): The Thin Red Line (15): Urban Legend (18): Patch Adams (12): Flubber (U): Arlington Road (15); Madeline (U): Pleasantvi0e (12); Payback (18): Little Voice (15)

LINCOLN ODEON CINEMA (08705-050007); ODEON CINEMA (08705-050007);
Artington Road (15); Waking Ned
(PG); Shakespeare in Love (15); Pauch
Adams (12); The Rugrats Movie (U);
A Bug's Life (U); My Name is Joe
(15); Pleasamoille (12); Payback (18);
The Thin Red Line (15); Madeline (U);
Antz (U); Les Misérables (12)

ABC ALLERTON (0151-724 3550); The Rugrats Movie (U); MouseHunt (PG); A Bug's Life (U)

LIVERPOOL

HUDDERSFIELD
UCI (0990-888990): A Simple Wish
(U); You've Got M@il (PG): Shakespeare in Love (15): Madeline (U);
Jack Frost (PG): The Thin Red Line
(15): Payback (18): Elizabeth (15):
A Bug's Life (U); Waking Ned (PG):
The Turnant Show (PG): A Night at
the Routury (15); Pleasantville (12):
Urban Legend (18): Aarzoo (PG):
The Rugrats Movie (U); Patch
Adams (12): Arlington Road (15) ODEON (08705-050007); The Thin Red Line (15): Patch Adams (12): Waking Ned (PG); A Bug's Life (U) PLAZA (0151-474 4076); The Ru-

HULL
ODEON (08705-050007): Pleasantville (12): Dr Dollittle (PG);
The Thin Red Line (15): The Rugrats Movie (U); Waking Ned (PG): Star Trek: Insurrection (PG): Small Soldiers (PG): The Prince of Egypt (U); Little Voice (15): A Night at the Roxbury (15): Patch Adams (12): You've Got M@ll (PG): Payback (18): A Bug's Life (U): Arlington Road (15): Shakespeare in Love (15): Saning Private Ryan (15): This Year's Love (18): Velvet Goldmine (18): Jack Frost (PG) grats Movie (U): Antz (PG): Shake-speare in Love (15): Patch Adams (12): A Bug's Life (U): Hilary and Jacide (15): The Thin Red Line (15) VIRGIN (0541-555146): This Year's Virtual (1931-19314); filts fear's Love (18): Patch Adams (12): You've Got M@il (PG): Waking Ned (PG); Hum Aapke Hain Koun..! (I): Pleasantville (12): Jack Frost (PG): Shakespeare in Love (15): The Thin Red Line (15); Arlington Road (15): Payback (18): The Rugrats Movie (II): A Buse's Life (II)

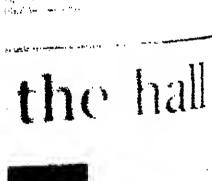
(U), A Bug's Life (U) UCI 8 ST ANDREWS QUAY (0990-WOOLTON PICTURE HOUSE (0151-428 1919); The Rugrats would file: Shakespeare in Love (15); 888990); Jack Prost (PG); Aring-ton Road (15); Kachche Dhaage (PG); A Bug's Life (U); Payback (18); The Rugrats Movie (U); Shakespeare in Love (15); Little Voice (15); Mighty Joe Young (PG); Patch Adams (12); Madeline (II); Elizabeth (15); Pleacantuffle Elizabeth (15); A Bug's Life (U)

ABC CINEMA (0870-902 0422):

(PG): racch Adams (12): Madeine
(U): Elizabeth (15): Pleasantville
(12): You've Got M@II (PG):
Waking Ned (PG): A Simple
Wish (U) Patch Adams (12): A Bug's Life (U); Jack Frost (PG); The Rugrats Movie (U): Saving Private Ryan (15): A Night at the Roxbury (15)

23.75. Total charge for credit 59.435.95 (Includes a finance facility fee of £70, payable with the first o milesge/condition if the vehicle is returned at the end of the finance agreement. Written quotations





426

10-1

9,3 (\*\*)

(45 · 74- ......

Water - 12 1 - 5 1 1 1 1

Andrew .

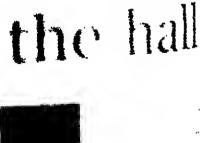
\$ 14° - 15° 15°

والمراج بطاقمين

and the second

the state of

No. of Street, or other Persons



### BUSINESS

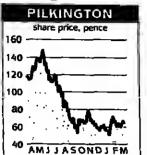
### BRIEFING

#### Deutsche ups cash call to DM6bn

DEUTSCHE BANK said yesterday that it was increasing the size of the rights issue to fund its \$10bn (£6.25bn) purchase of Bankers Trust by 50 per cent to DM6bn (£2.07bn). The German giant said the extra cash would help equip it for

"continuing consolidation" in Europe's banking industry. Chairman Rolf Breuer dampened speculation that the bigger call meant Deutsche would step into the bank bid war in France. There has been talk that Deutsche could partially underwrite BNP's bid for Société Générale. The bank's shares fell 1.23 euros to 50.65 on the cash call news. Net income, including the DM3.2bn windfall dividend from the bank's Daimler-Benz shareholding, tripled to DM3.4bn.

#### Pilkington restructuring on target



PAOLO SCARONL chief executive of Pilkington, said yesterday the benefits were coming through from the restructuring of the glass maker's European operations, with margins almost double last year's and prices firm. Demand for float glass in Europe, Pilkington's largest single business area, is running at similar levels to last year, while plant disposals and

closures in Britain and Germany are mostly completed. Mr Scaroni confirmed the group would take a £30m charge in the full year for exchange rate related losses in Poland, Mexico and Brazil

#### Goldsmiths bids £44m to go private

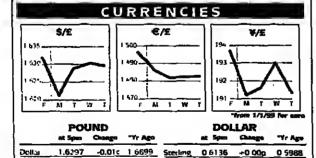
GOLDSMITHS, the jewellery chain, yesterday became the latest company to give up on the stock market when its management launched a £44m bid to take the group private. The management team, led by chief executive Jurek Piasecki and backed by the Alchemy venture capital group, is offering 183p per share. This is a 9 per cent premium over the previous day's closing price hut a 63 per cent premium over the price just before Christmas when the management made its first approach.

FTSE 100	DOW JONES	MINCKEI
000	9990	6400
00	9940	e000
00-	9900	5600
000 F M T W 1	9950 F M T W T	5200 F M T W T

INDICES							
ladez	Close	Change Ch	-140(%) S	2 mk high 5	2 wk low Yle	44(%)	
FTSE 100	6114.30	-26.30	-0.43	6365.40	4599.20	2.67	
FTSE 250	5463.30	-22.00	-0.40	5970.90	4247.60	3.12	
FTSE 350	2917,50	-12.40	-0,42	3024.90	2210.40	2.74	
FTSE All Share	2825,40	-11.50	-0.41	2923,83	2143,53	2.78	
FTSE SmallCap	2373,80	-1.10	-0.05	2793.80	1834,40	3.45	
FTSE Fledgling	1293.70	-0.90	-0.07	1517.10	1046,20	4,17	
FTSE AIM	847.10	-2,30	-0.27	1146,90	761,30	1,11	
FTSE Eurotop 100	2877,72	-11.15	-0.39	3079,27	2018.15	2.05	
FTSE Eurotop 300	1242.43	-3.42	-0.28	1332.07	880.63	1,96	
Dow Jones	9905.77	24.69	0.25	10001.78	7400.30	1,60	
Nikket	15717.92	-550.19	3.38	17111.59	12787.90	0.90	
Hang Seng	10659,32	-280.75	-2.57	11926,16	6544,79	3,35	
Dax	5013.61	-63.81	- <u>1</u> ,26	6217.83	3833,71	1.73	
56P 500	1305.32	7.45	0.57	1311,11	923.32	1,23	
Nasdag	2440,97	11.77	0.49	2533.44	1357.09	0.28	
Toronto 300	6599,80	6,38	0.10	7837.70	5320.90	1,61	
Brazil Bovespa	10638.68	3,92	0.04	12339.14	4575.69	5.85	
Belgium Bel20	3315.17	-27.35	-0.87	3713.21	2696,26	2,12	
Amsterdam Exch	537.59	-2,38	-0.44	600.65	366,58	1.91	
France CAC 40	4152,37	-17.64	-0.42	4404,94	2881.21	1,74	
Milan MI830	37004.00	361.00	0.99	39170.00	24175.00	1.10	
Madrid Ibex 35	10039,70	-79.40	-0.79	10989.80	6869.90	1.74	
Irish Overall	5296.87	-0.73	-0.01	5581.70	3732.57	1.57	
5 Korea Comp	578,98	-21.54	-3.59	651.95	277.37	0.36	
Austrolia ASX	2967,70	-10.10	-0.34	2996.30	2386.70	3.11	

INTEREST RATES						
\$/E	€/£	¥/£				
1 620	1 490	193				
1 620 F M 1 W 1	1.480 1.470 F M I W T	197 - W 7 W 7				
	at Som, Gorman maner	market rates equal core ra				

MONEY MARKET RATES BOND YIELDS								
Index	3 mouth						Long bend	
UK	5.39	-2.17	5.33	-2.26	4.43	-1.49	4.43	-1.41
us	5.00	-0.69	5.28	-0.50	5.10	0 47	5.48	0.43
Japan	0.18	-0.52	0.22	-0.44	1.80	0.05	2.59	0 25
Germany	5.03	-0.48	3.02	-0.72	3.91	-0.95	4.90	-0.52



	Close	a Chy	Yr Ago		Index C	E Yr ago	New Age
	ΟT	HE	RIN	DIC	ATO	RS	
S index	102 50	+0.10	107.50	5 undex	107 40	∙0.20	109.40
Yen	191 35	<b>-</b> 41.19	217.30	Yen	117.43	•¥0 71	130.04
EUI -	1 48-0	+0.780	1.40/9	EURO	09100	30	0.8571

	Close	Chg	Yr Ago		Index	Chg	Yr ago	Nex figs
Srent Oil (	51 13 42	0 50	12.03	GDP	135.40	3.00	112.04	Mar
Gold (S)	282 35	-1 70	291 48	RPI	163 40	2.40	159.57	Mar
Silver (S)	5 04	0.00	5.80	Base	Rares	5.50	7.25	

iberg.com/uk

Maita (irra)

SOURCE BLOOMBERG

TOURIST RATES						
Australia (S)	2.4984	Mexican (nuevo peso)	14.49			
Austria (schillings)	19.68	Netherlands (guilders)	3.1537			
Belgium (francs)	57.85	New Zealand (\$)	2.935			
Canada (S)	2.4147	Norway (kroner)	12.25			
Cyprus (pounds)	0.8272	Portugal (escudos)	285.40			
Denmark (kroner)	10 72	Saudi Arabia (rials)	5.937			
Finland (markka)	8 5486	Singapore (S)	2.662			

Beleium (trancs)	<u></u>	New Zealand (\$)	2.935?
Canada (S)	2.4147	Norway (kroner)	12.25
Cyprus (pounds)	0.8272	Portugal (escudos)	285.40
Denmark (kroner)	10 72	Saudi Arabia (rials)	5.9379
Finland (markka)	8 5486	Singapore (S)	2.6625
France (francs)	9.3933	South Africa (rands)	9.6978
Germany (marks)	2.8080	Spain (pesetas)	237.72
Greece (drachma)	461.27	Sweden (kronor)	12.96
Hong Kong (S)	12.24	Switzerland (francs)	2.2988
Ireland (punts)	1.1249	Thailand (bahts)	55.04
Indian (rupees)	62.12	Turkey (lirasi)	570271
israel (shekels)	6.0579	USA (S)	1.5920
Italy (liga)	2786		
Japan (yen)	189.53	Rates for indication purpose	s only
Malaysia (ringgits)	5.8647		

0 6162

Source: Thomas Cook

### BICC rebuffs £379m Wassall takeover bid

BICC HAS turned down a By PETER THAL LARSEN takeover approach from Wassall, the aggressive venture canital vehicle, which valued the beleaguered construction-tocables group at £379m.

Wassall last night revealed that it had made the tentative offer, which was pitched at 90p cash for each BICC ordinary share, to BICC's board last Friday. However, BICC rebuffed the approach earlier this week, prompting Wassall to make its tentative approach public.

Chris Miller, Wassall'a chief executive, said: "We believe that this proposal should be brought to the attention of BICC shareholders and continue to seek a constructive dialogue with the board of BICC."

**National** 

**Express** 

takes on

BY PHILIP THORNTON

Transport Correspondent

NATIONAL EXPRESS, the public transport group, is planning an attack on the £8bn American school bus market as

part of a strategy to create an

strong position and could spend

up to £250m "tomorrow" be-

cause of its low gearing. It said

up to 40 per cent of sales could

come from overseas within two

Colin Child, the National Ex-

said the US school bus network

the country's largest trans-

port system - was ripe for con-solidation and privatisation. He

was still run hy public sector

"The other third in the pri-

vate sector is fragmented and

school boards.

international business. The group said it was in a

buses

**US** school

Mr Miller said he wanted BICC's shareholders to be aware of Wassall'6 interest so they could make a decision about whether the price was fair.

However, BICC said the offer was inadequate and did not reflect the work that had heen done in turning the company Alan Jones, the chief execu-

tive, called for Wassall to make a formal offer. "They ought to put their cards on the table and say what they precisely want to do," he said. "I'm sure the shareholders would expect them to do it property."

BICC is this morning expected to release an official The company, which turned it- ported a pre-tax loss of £94m for

statement to the Stock Ex- self from a mini-conglomerate change explaining why it rejected the offer.

The stock market will this morning have its first opportunity to respond the news, which was announced after the close of trading yesterday BICC shares closed down 1.5p at 82p yesterday, while Wassall shares were up 2.5p at 208.5p.

Apart from its cash offer for BICC ordinary shares, Wassall is also proposing to offer £1.10 worth of 10.75 per cent loan stock for each of BICC's 200m convertible preference

Wassall's move follows months of speculation that it was preparing a hid for BICC.

into a venture capital-style vehicle last year, has been building a shareholding in BICC since last autumn. It currently owns more than 9 per cent of

The bid also comes just six months after Wassell took control of TLG, the lighting group, in a £353m deal after outbidding Cooper Industries, the US diversified electricals group.

BICC.

Shares in BICC have more than halved in price in the past year, mainly due to sharp price falls and sliding demand for its cables businesses as a result of the Asian crisis and worldwide economic slowdown.

Last week, the group re-

the year to December 1998, compared to a loss of £30m in 1997. Before exceptionals, profits fell from £110m to £70m. BICC shareholders have fre-

quently pressured the company to separate its Balfour Restiv construction arm from its cables operations. However Alan Jones, the chief executive, has constantly rejected

Wassall last night insisted that it intended to bid for the whole of BICC. It also stressed

it wanted to bid on its own. However, analysts said that if it succeeded Wassall would be likely to find another buyer for Balfour Beatty, allowing it to concentrate on improving the

### Retail sales dip adds to rate cut pressure

By DIANE COYLE **Economics Editor** 

RETAILERS HAD aglum Feb ruary, according toofficial figures yesterday. Alon; with weak lending figures, thenews convinced many analyts that an-

other interest rate ut is likely. The volume of siles on the high street dipped by0.3 per cent last month. There was a 1.3 per centrise in the year of February. but the Office for National Statistics said the underlying rate of sales growth had dowed.

"There is enough here to convince the Bank & England the economy needs 3 bit more of a lift," said Ciara Barr, an economist at Deutsche Bank.

Willem Buiter, theone memher of the Monetary Jolicy Committee to vote for an interest rate cut earlier this month, said vesterday he favourel moving quickly to a level at thich rates would not have to becut again. However, he added that confidence indicators has improved since January. "There has been a quick turnaround, he said.

Most analysts seeme level of borrowing costs falling from the current 5.5 per cent o a trough of 5 per cent or even 45 per cent, Yesterday's statistics showed declines in all categores of sales

volumes in February n year-onyear terms, sales of lousehold goods remain the stongest, up

THE US trade defiit soared to a record \$16.99h in January as exports of Usgoods fell and imports of stee and mannfactured goods sared.

The bilateral deficit with China showed a particularly big rise, up from 3.98bn in December to \$4.86n in February. Steel impres from China jumped by 6 per cent. The deficit with Apan narrowed from \$188hn to \$4.66bn, but the overall trade gap was about \$bu wider

than analysts hadexpected. The yawning gap between imports and expots is likely to slow US econonic growth significantly during the year. Figures on consumer prices showed them rising by just 0.1 per cent in February, taking the annual inflation rate to 1.6 per cent. The bengn inflation outlook means tie Federal Reserve is expected to leave US interest rates inchanged.



press deputy chief executive, Phil White, National Express chief executive, and Colin Child (behind), deputy chief executive Magali Delporte

Child said National Express and to Australia where it is bidding for rail franchises, because of the common language and similar legal and accoun-

run by 5,000 'mom and pop' ortancy standards. ganisations," he said. Last September National

US's fifth largest operator. Mr rent zero position.

Within two years, up to 40 per cent of turnover would come Express bought two operators from overseas, including 30 per share, up from 13.5p.

The expansion plans were said two-thirds of the system had been attracted to the US. revealed as the group, with tributed to the inclusion of a full ent routes, with passenger huses and coaches, announced a 77 per cent surge in annual profits for 1998 to £97m from

Operating profits before exceptional costs rose 14.4 per cent to £95.6m (£83.6m). The

with 1,750 buses, making it the cent from the US from the cur- total dividend was 16p per its rise 31.5 per cent to £25.9m.

train operating companies acquired in 1997 - Central Trains. ScotRail and Silverlink.

Together with the Gatwick Express and Midland Main Line, the division saw turnover

Passenger growth ranged Much of the progress was at- from 5 to 15 per cent on differyear performance for three numbers up 7.5 per cent to 137

Mr White said National Express planned to ask the Government to extend its franchise terms for Central, ScotRail and Silverlink beyond their current steam ahead to £918m and prof- seven years.

### Rover crashes | GKN links with Agusta £650m into red to form helicopter giant

sent the Rover car company deep into the red last year, ac-

Rover made a loss of around DM1.87bn (£650m) compared with a loss of £91m in 1997. Its German owner BMW disappointed analysts with a 27 per cent fall in net profits to BMW said the sharp rise in

osses at Rover was a result of "model changes, market and currency factors and the restructuring measures". The figures came as BMW executives examined details of the

aimed at securing the future of Rover's Longbridge plant, which employs 12,000 people. BMW is debating where to build the production site for the successor to the Rover 200 and 400 series mid-range car. It has

Government's offer of grants

HUGE RESTRUCTURING costs By Philip Thornton both the UK and Hungarian

> Stephen Byers, Trade and Industry Secretary, confirmed that he had finalised a "complex" package in time for BMW's board meeting yesterday. The subsidy package is believed to amount to £180m. He expects

further talks with BMW in the next few weeks. Tony Woodley, chief car industry negotiator for the Transport and General Workers trade union, said he was confident that

BMW would choose Britain. "Fifty to sixty thousand jobs depend on this decision, and of course the company understands that and the British gov-

ernment understands that," he

Industry sources said they did not expect an announcement submitted grant applications to until the middle of next week. I manufacturer in the world.

GKN, the industrial group, yes-terday announced details of a deal to combine its Westland division with Agusta of Italy to create a new European helicopters

Westland is to link up with Agusta, a division of the Italian industrial group Finmeccanica in a 50-50 joint venture. David Wright, an executive director of GKN, will become the chairman.

The deal is likely to delight Michael Heseltine, who first tried to combine Westland with a European group when he was defence secretary in the mid-1980s. Mr Heseltine resigned after the plan was blocked by the then prime minister, Margaret Thatcher, who favoured a US

GKN yesterday stressed that far from being a rescue, Westland and Agusta would form the second largest helicopter

By ANDREW VERITY

Together they will form one of the world's premier helicopter companies with a broad range of civil and defence products, a strong order book and an exciting programme of new products and technologies," it said in a statement with Finmeccanica.

The deal marks another step forward in the consolidation of the defence and aerospace industries, leaving Europe with just two helicopter manufacturers - Westland/Agusta and Eurocopter, a consortium led by the French group Aerospatiale.

Mr Wright said further Eu-

ropean deals could be in the offing. He declined to rule out a tie-up with Eurocopter-a move that would put Boeing, the world's biggest helicopter maker, on the back foot. Executives have taken near-

ly a year to thrash out details of

the deal after appounding the plan in April last year. Yesterday they named Amedeo Caporaletti, president of Agusta, as chief executive. Richard Case. the chief executive of Westland, will be managing director.

More than 4,800 staff will be transferred to the new company which already has an order book of 26.3bn. A surge in new orders led the group to recruit 500 staff in the last year.

The companies have already worked together to develop the EH101, a three-engined, 15tonne helicopter used by the Royal Navy. A total of 98 EH101s have been ordered by the Royal Air Force, the Italian Navy, the Canadian Armed Forces and a customer in Japan.

Analysts welcomed the deal but said more consolidation was needed. "There are still too many [helicopter groups] across

per cent thanks to the steady housing market. Jepartment stores are faring poorly, with sales down 2.2 percent in the year to February. Fowever, the retail sales figures lave been er-ratic. The timing of ales around Christmas and NewYear makes them difficult to interpret. Separately the lank of Eng-

land reported a slowdown in the growth of broad morey, M4. Its growth rate declind to 7.5 per cent last month. Both the British Bankers' Association and Building Soci-

eties Association reported weak lending in February Underlying growth in home loars remained buoyant, but Abbe National's securitisation of fibn of mortgages depressed the figure.

Adrian Coles, BA director general, said a big increase in the number of loans approved signalled the possibilit of a spring pick-up in the housing market. Approvals climbec to 1.950 in February, the highest level since September. Other new lending to individuals slowedto £478m in February, well below the recent monthly average.

### AROUND THE WORLD'S MARKETS

### LONDON BLUE-CHIP shares yes-

terday closed lower for the fifth consecutive session, hit by profittaking and worries over the expiry of option contracts.

The FTSE 100 index fell 26.3 to 6,114.3, with many huyers remaining on the sidelines ahead of today's expiry of the March options series, one of the stock market's traditional bugbears. The smaller indices also came under selling pressure, with the FTSE 250 falling 22 to 5,463.3 and the Small Cap ending 1.1 lower at 2.373.8.

Market Report, page 21

#### NEW YORK STOCKS CLUNG to thin gains in

rescue

late morning trading, with transport and banks highlighting otherwise lacklustre trade. Analysts kept the 10,000 Dow threshold in mind, even though the market held below 9,900 for most of the morning. Any signs of a rally were stifled by bouts of profit taking ahead of today's

derivative expiries. As European bourses closed, the Dow average was up 17.5 points at 9.896.9. The Nasdaq was up 7.9 at 2,446, and the S&P500 was up 5.6 points at 1,303.

#### TOKYO

THE NIKKEI 225 index closed more than 3 per cent down at 15,717.9 amid concern that the benchmark index's recent rise had been excessive. Traders said Sony and the Bank of

Tokyo-Mitsubishi bore the brunt of the profit taking, which intensified towards the close. The heavyweights both fell over 4 per cent. Buying by foreign investors was

the driving force behind the recent rally in the Nikkei average, spurred by hopes Japanese companies are taking long-awaited restructuring steps to steer themselves and the economy back to recovery.

THE CAC 40 closed down 0.42 per cent at 4,152, after earlier failing as low as 4,093. France Telecom weighed on the blue chip index, falling sharply after announcing flat profits for 1998, despite predictions that deregularisation

across Europe's telecom markets would boost profits this year. LVMH rose 4.85 per cent after the luxury brands group said with its 1998 results that the worst of the Asian crisis was behind it, while Renault climbed 1.9 per

cent as worries over its planned

tie-up with Nissan receded.

#### FRANKFURT

THE BLUE-CHIP Xetra lax closed down 0.73 per cent at 5,05.8, just above the psychologicaly important 5,000 point level, amid light trade and uncertainty ahead of option expires today,

Deutsche Bank led the

decliners, falling over 3 jer cent after it announced a larger than expected capital increas to fund its Banker's Trust acquistion, while Drescher Bank fell 1.8 per cent on profit taking after its recent rise on the back o its French partner BNP's bd for SocGen and Paribas.

MY RIVIN

? Zuns must go Section of Same

se professional Contract of the Contract of th

Section of the Country of Sections The state winds to the

Her Cha

1. The latter of the latter of

the property of the second

The second of the second

And the second s

Figure 10 - 12 - 13 prode

The Paragraph of Diggs

garage or drawing.

man Property of the control of

After the second

Take Town of the

NAMES OF A STATE AND BELLEVILLE.

At the same of the same

mark and we make the than

with the company of a plant of

Note that the state of

And the designing

A Company of the State of

To other the statement

Section 1.

The same of the same

ing in the first day

ing to school

Charles of the street

Personal Company of the Section

and the samples are

was a selection may resident

The state of the s

when he was stand

The same of the sa

र १८५५ । १४४ ४ **- रा**ज्य

and the second of the second

St. of the Science

Committee of the second

Acres Marchange

and the second

Algebra (all the second

provide the second section

Section of the second

and the second

oven building

4-14-6

A . .

Store marketer

200

......

4 to a 12 to 5

40.00

A SECTION

north a threat p

 $A_{i}(G_{i}) \cap B_{i}(G_{i}) \otimes_{i} G_{i}$ 

The state of the s

Process to a regard

Variable of the state of

Property of the same of the same

 $e^{-1/2} = -\lambda \cdot A \cdot \frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{1}{2}$ 

### FRIDAY RADIO

RADIO 1 (97.6-99.8MHz FM ) 6.30 Zoe Ball 9.00 Simon Mavo. 12.00 Jo Whiley. 2.00 Mark Rad-cliffe. 4.00 Chris Moyles. 5.45 Newsbeat. 6.00 Pete Tong's Esset tial Selection. 9.00 Judge Jules. 11.00 Westwood - Radio 1 Rap Show. 2.00 Fabio and Grooverider. 4.00 - 7.0 Emma B.

(88-902MHz FM ) 6.00 Alex Lester, 7.30 Sarah Kennedy. 9.30 Ken Bruce. 12.00

Jimmy Young. 2.00 Ed Stewart. 5.05 Des Lynam. 2.00 The Michael Feinstein Songbook - Turns Another Page. See Pick of the Day. 7.30 Friday Night is Music Night: In-troduced by Richard Baker from the Hippodrome, Golders Green, London. Barry Wordsworth conducts the BBC Concert Orchestra, with guest artists Marilyn Hill Smith, Alan Opie and Graham Dalby and the Grahamophones. At 8.15, during the Interval, Richard Baker introduces music on disc from sexophonist Branford Marsalis. 9.15 John le Carrels Single and Single. 9.30 Listen to the Band. 10.00 David Jacobs. 10.30 Sheridan Morley. 41.45 The People's Psaims, 12.00 cky Home. 4.00 - 6.00 Lata

RADIO 3 (902-924MHz FM ) 9.00 On Air 9.00 Masterworks 10.30 Artist of the Week 11.00 Sound Stories. 12.00 Composer of the Week;

1.00 The Radio 3 Lunchtime Concert. Roland Pontinen (piano). Buson: Gigue Bolero and Variations (An die Jugend) (after Mozart); Turandots Frauengemach; Die Nachtlichen (Elegies). Liszt: Gnomeneigen, S145 No 2; Vexilla regis prodetint; Wiegenfied: Valse oublee No 4 Debussy: Pour les sixtes. Pour les degres chormatiques Pour les sonorites opposses. Four les arpeges gempesses, Pour les accords (Stodies) (P)

4.00 Music Restored. 4.45 Music Machine. S.DO IN TURE 7.30 Performance on 3. Live from

6.00 The Boy from Mercury (1998)

6.00 The Boy from Mercury (1998) (9349, 8.00 Forever Love (1998) (42190).
10.00 Jingle All the Wey (1996) (78432).
12.00 Hearts Achiff (1996) (32703), 2.00
The Boy from Mercury (1998) (39503).
4.00 Forever Love (1996) (2859), 6.00
Jingle All the Way (1996) (27277), 8.00
Men in Black (1997) (27722), 10.00 The English Patient (1996) (47919432), 12.40
Morth Star (1996) (250440), 2.10 The

rth Star (1995) (2509440). 2.10 The

Pope Must Die (1991) (579730), 3.50 — Light Cherolene Kod (1996) (35546681), gar skovenna X Light Too Close to Home (1997) (65529).

8.00 Cinema Paradiso (1988) (31074).

11.00 Steel (1997) (35068). 1.00 Sea Devils (1997) (35890). 3.00 Cinema Par-

ediso (1986) (30616), 5.00 Too Close to Home (1997) (57451), 7.00 p:review

Rumble in the Bronx (1996) (45838). 9.30 Jackie Chan's First Strike (1996) (11432).

(6180) 7.30 UK Top Ten (6819), 8-00

11.00 Steel (1997) (196836), 12.40

7.00 See Devils (1937) (33008223).

Omega Doorn (1996) (5449961). 2.05 New Jack City (1991) (581575). 3.45 Bloodhourds & (1997) (381933). 5.15 —

4.00 The Decert Rats (1953) (7932819). 5.00 City across the River (1949)

(2262060), #LDO MCQ (1974) (3267513).

(832) (80167884), 12.35 The Fiend Who Walked the West (1958) (4536020).

LS Short Attention Span Cinems 103 Short Attention Span Cinems 1037242, 8,00 The Cincinnati Kid (1965)

101c (5330800), 10.00 The Dead Zone

1983) (8080426). See Pick of the Day. 12.00 The Brood (1979) (9427730). See

(1998) (1823)(1555), 3.20 - 6.00 Kids Are Alight (1878) (1875)001).

(\$150, 4.20 The Car Show (\$1785). \$30 Hier \$25750, 6.00 Widtle SOS

230 Futureworld (1918548). 8.00 Outback

Sect of a Legend (9624567). 10.00 Car Mirro (9521425), 11.00 Weepons of War

Microsoft (1037857), 8.30 Uncharted Microsoft (154), 9.00 Cleopetra - In

158277), **12.00** The Great Egyptians 153607), **1,00-2,00** Hitler (9452858)

50, 6.30 Untarned Africa (3741971).

Plot of the Day. 135 Black Ra

OVERY CHANNEL

440 Fax Hunt's Fishing Adventures

10.00 The Greatest Show on Earth

#### PICK OF THE DAY

LOUISE ARBOUR (right), the is a peach. The American cabaret chief prosecutor at the United Nations War Crimes Tribunal, takes some time out from tracking down war criminals to talk to Jenni Murray about her work in Bosnia and Rwanda in Woman's Hour (10am R4), as well as her hopes for the future. Despite its look-at-me title, The Michael Feinstein Songbook -

Turns Another Page (7pm R2)

St John's, Smith Square, London, in-

Barnert. Britten: Prelude and Fugue.

Bloch: Concerto grosso No 1. Mar-

tin: Petite symphonie concertante.

most interesting new publications.

American historian Clayborne Car-

son has recently published 'Tha Au-

toblography of Martin Luther King'.

more than 30 years after the assas-

sination of the civil rights leader."

speeches and writing open up a

fluence? Poet and novelist Fred

D'Aguiar investigates.

certo for Orchestra.

New World.

recent CD releas

11.30 Jazz Century.

new understanding of his life and in-

8.50 Concert, part 2. Tippett: Con-

9.40 Postscript. An idiosyncratic history of classical duets and an in-

cidental history of loving, told by dancers and thinkers. 5: Technolog-

ical Terpsichore'. Partnerships in the

10.00 Hear and Now. Verity Sharp

investigates the thriving new music

scene in New Zealand, whose com-

posers are little known in tha UK.

The New Music New Zealand festi-

val held in Edinburgh last year set

Young, performed five recent works.

Gillian Whitehead: Resurgences. -

Jack Body: Melodies. Helen Bowa-

ter: New Year Fantare, Lyell Cress-

well: Salm. John Psathas: Selkilos

(first performance). Plus a survey of

out to remedy that, and the BBC Scottish SQ, conductor Kenneth

Can this compilation of King's

tended review of one of the month's

8.30 Book of the Month, An ex-

troduced by Stephanie Hughes. London Mozart Players/Matthias

singer and Gershwin archivist presents a second series devoted to songwriting legends, beginning with Jay Livingstone and Ray Evans, the Academy Awardshowered octogenarian doo responsible for "Que Sera, Sera", "Mona Lisa" and, bless, the theme time to the immortal TV western series, Bononza. DOMINIC CAVENDISH

12.00 Composer of the Week Delius. (R) 100 - 6,00 Through the Night.

RADIO 4 (92.4-94.6MHz FM ) 6.00 Today. 9.00 NEWS; Desert Island Discs. 9.45 Serial; Letters from My Wind-

10.00 NEWS; Woman's Hour. See Pick of the Day. 11.00 NEWS; Sharks and Seaguis A Summer with Sussex. (R) 11.30 Sunny Sida Up. 12.00 NEWS; You and Yours. 12.57 Weather. 100 The World at One. 1.30 Puzzle Panel 2.00 NEWS; The Archers. 2.15 Afternoon Play: M for Mother. 3.00 NEWS; Making History. 3.30 Carnival Tales. 3.45 This Sceptred Isle.

4.00 NEWS; Open Book. 4.30 The Message. 5.00 PM 5.57 Weather. 6.00 Six O'Clock News. 6.30 The News Outz 7.00 NEWS; The Archers. 735 Front Row. Francine Stock with

the arts programme. 7.45 The Cry of the Bittern. An environmental drama by Tim Jackson. With lan Pepperell, Kelley Hunter and Flachel Atkins (30/30). 8.00 NEWS; Any Questions?. Jonathan Dimbleby is joined in Leyburn, North Yorkshire, by panellists including Will Self and Steven Nor-

8.45 Letter from America. Alistair

Cooke with another sice of Ameri-

9.00 NEWS; The Friday Play: Ain't it Grand to Be Bloomin' Well Dead. By John Clifford, inspired by Federico Garcia Lorca. Leslie examines his relationship with his mother, his sexuality and his death. With Graham Turner, Tom McGovern, Liam Brennan and James Bryce Director Gaynor Macfarlane. 10,00 The World Tonight. With

Robin Lusting 10.45 Book at Bedtime: Strait is the Gate. David McKail reads an abridged version of the story by Andre Gide (5/5). (R) 1L00 NEWS; Late Tackle. Sports features, opinions and studio discussion, hosted by Eleanor Oldroyd. 11.30 Sport in the Movies.

12.30 The Late Book: The Mask of Command. 12.48 Shipping Forecast. 1.00 As World Service. 5.30 World News. 5.35 Shipping Forecast. 5.40 Inshore Forecast 5.45 Prayer for the Day. 5.47 Leisure Update. 5.56 - 6.00 Weather.

12.00 News.

RADIO 4 LW (198kHz) 9.45 - 10.00 An Act of Worship. 12.00 - 12.04 News Headines; Shipping Forecast, 5.54 - 5.57 Shipping Forecast, 11.30 - 6.00 Today in Parliament.

**RADIO 5 LIVE** (693, 909kHz MW) 6.00 Breakfast

9.00 Nicky Campbell 12.00 The Midday News. 1.00 Ruscoe and Co. 4.00 Drive. 7.00 News Extra. 7.30 Alan Green's Sportsnight, Alan Green and his studio guests discuss tha week's sporting issues and look ahead to the weekend's fix-

10.00 Late Night Live. Insight and comment on the day's big issues with Brian Hayes, Including Pa-pertalk, 10:30 Sport, 11:00 News. 11.15 The Financial World Tonight.

1.00 Up All Night. 5.00 - 6.00 Morning Reports. CLASSIC FM (1000-1019MHz FM )

6.00 Nick Bailey. 9.00 Michael Mappin. 12.00 Requests. 2.00 Concerto. 3.00 Jamie Crick. 6.30 Newsnight. 7.00 Smooth Classics at Seven. 9.00 Evening Concert. Rachmaninov: Rhapsody on a Theme of Paganini: Howard Shelley (piano), Royal Scottish NO/Bryden Thomson. Elgar: Cello Concerto in E minor. Ralph Kirshbaum, Royal Scottish NO/Alexander Gibson. Brahms: Symphony No 2 in D. Scottish CO/Charles Mackerras 11.00 Alan Mann. 2.00 Concertn. 3.00 -6.00 Mark Griffiths.

VIRGIN RADIO 11215, 1197-1260MHz MW 1058MHz FM ) 6.30 Chris Evans. 9.30 Russ Williams, 100 Mark Forrest, 4.00 Harriet Scott. 7,00 Wheels of Steel 11.00 Janey Lee Grace. 2.00 -6.00 Richard Allen.

WORLD SERVICE RADIO (198kHz LW ) 100 The World Today. 130 Meridian (Books). 2.00 The World Today. 2.30 People and Politics. 3.00 The World Today. 3.20 Sports Roundup. 3.30 World Business Report 3.45 Insight 4.00 The World Today. 4.30 Weekend. 5.00 The World Today. 5.30 - 6.00 My Cen-

TALK RADIO 6.00 David Banks and Nick Ferrari. 9.00 Scott Chisholm and Sally James, 12-00 Motoring. 1.00 Anna Raebum - Live and Diract. 3.00 OK to Talk. 5.00 Tha SportZone. 8.00 Nicky Horna's Access All Areas, 10.00 Dave

Barrett, 2.00 . 6.00 Mike Dickin.

Thin Blue Line (1094258), 9.40 Herry En-

field and Churns (6710797), 10.20 Ruby

Wax Meets\_ Jene Seymour, Lisa Kudrow

and John Goodman (2864345). 11.00 The

Bill (8583635). 12.00 Dr Who Omribus (390498). 1.45 Best of the Old Grey Whis-

tie Test (2879420). 2.45 Sight and Sound in

Concert (2382488). 3.00 - 7.00 Shopping

6.00 Try and Crew (79453364), 6.20 10

plus 2 (48721797). 6.40 Greedysaurus and the Gang (98463277). 6.45 Philbert the Frog (98462548). 6.50 Police Dot Shorts (98370513). 7.00 Practical Parenting

(3222180), 7.05 Professor Bubble (1224971),

(9637906), 8.25 Babaloos (1226345), 8.30 Tiny Tales (3938426), 8.35 Tiny and Crew

(8468093). 9.00 Special Babies (8145432).

9.30 The Roseanne Show - Highlights

Through the Keyhole (21461277), 12,40

ing Room (6224703), 3.50 Michael Cole

7.30 Callou (6824635), 7.35 Bug Alert (7702567), 7.55 Practical Perenting

(9827529). 6.00 Barney and Friends

(4931364). 8.50 Practical Parenting

with Screenshop (8932488).

### INDEPENDENT PURSUITS

**CHESS** JON SPEELMAN

THE ANNUAL Blackpool Congress took place last weekend at the Winter Gardens with six sections headed by a strong Open. Carrying on from his victory in the Onyx Grand Prix last year, the favourite Mark Hebden won this outright with 4.5/5. He was followed by Keith Arkell, who drew his first two games but then recovered, then Bogdan Lalic and Danny Gormally on 4.

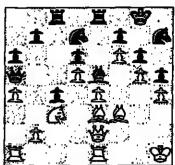
The casualty of the tournament, though, was the fourth grandmaster Jim Plaskett (in addition to all of the above, except for Gormally an international master) who drew his first game and dropped out of contention with the blood-curdling defeat in the penultimate round below.

The second tournament, the Lancashire Challengers (under 180) was won jointly by R Savory, P Isherwood and M Peacock on 4.5/5 and there were four further sections ranging right down to a "Standard" for players rated less than 80. In a Modern Benoni-cum-Four

Pawns' attack against the King's Indian (2 ... g6 3 Nc3 Bg7 4 e4 d6 5 f4 9-0 6 Nf3 c5 7 d5 e6 comes to the same thing), both players did their stuff with Mr Merriman showing admirable self-helief and purpose against such a formidable opponent.

When White started a kingside pawn storm the position sharpened still further, and the crisis exploded in the diagram. Plaskett quite rightly counter-attacked rather than expediting the enemy attack with 23 ..gxh5? 24 Qxh5 Bxc3 when 25 hxc3!? Rxe4 is very messy hut 25 Qh6 Ndxf6 26 gxf6 Bxf6 27 Rg1+ Kh8 13 Bxf3 a6 28 Raft Rg8 (or 28 ... Qd8 29 Bd4 Re5 14 a4 c4 30 Bxe5 dxe5 31 Rf5 wins) 29 Rxf6 Rxg1+30 Bxg1 Qe1 31 Rxf7 Qxe4+ 16 Kh1 Re7

32 Kh2 Qe2+ 33 Bf2 is a clean kill. But 26 ... Qxc3? was careless. Instead 26 ... Ne5! looks fine, eg:



a) 27 Bd2 Nxf3 28 Qxf3 Rh5 29 Rh1 Nxg5 30 Bxg5 Rxg5+ 31 Kf1 Qxd5! (but not 31 ...Rf5 32 Qxf5 gxf5 33 Rg1 + Kf8 34 Rh1 with a draw)

b) 27 Rh1 Rxh1 28 Rxh1 Qxc3 29 Kg3 Nxf3 30 Qxf3 should be excellent for Black, though he must still be very careful. 31 ... Ne5 was a gross blunder.

33 Kf1 h3, when Black should win. but after 32 Re3! it was all over. White: J Merriman

Plaskett boped for 32 Qxc8? Qf3+

Black: Jim Plaskett Modern Benoni 1 d4 Nf6 20 g5 b5 21 f5 Be5 2 c4 c5 22 f6 Ree8 (see 3 d5 g6 4 Nc3 d6 diagram) 5 e4 Bg7 23 Bxh5 Bxc3! 6 f4 0-0 24 bxc3 Rxc4 25 Rf3 Rvh4+ 7 Nf3 e6 8 Be2 exd5 26 Kg2 Qxc3? 9 cxd5 Bg4 27 Qf2 Rh5 10 0-0 Nbd7 28 Bxh5 gxh5 11 Re1 Re8 29 Qf5 Nhf8 12 h3 Bxf3 30 Rad1 h4 31 Bf2 Ne5?? 32 Re3! Qa5 15 Be3 Qa5 33 Qxc8 Qxa4 34 Rh1 c3 35 Rxh4 Qb5 17 Oe2 Rc8

36 Rh8+

1-0

#### BRIDGE ALAN HIRON

18 g4 h6

19 h4 Nh7

WHEN YOUR partner is known to hold values in the three side suits, it often pays to lead trumps. This deal proved infuriating for West - he did everything possible to give South a rough ride hut, in the end, declarer's guns were just too big for the defence.

South opened One Heart, West passed, and North raised to Two Hearts. East doubled for take-out but no one was prepared to take any further action when South jumped to game and this was passed out. West was certainly on the hall when he chose a trump lead - on any other attack declarer would have had time to organise a spade ruff on the table for his 10th trick.

South won in hand and led 42. Again West was with it - he went in with \$10 in order to lead another trump. If he had played low on the spade East (with no more trumps left) would have been forced to overtake. South won the trump lead and tried another low spade but again West was there and, after going in with his queen, he was able to lead a third round of trumps.

It looked as though the defenders had done everything that was necessary but South still had the last word when he cashed A and ran

Game all; dealer South North **4**54 ♥K65 ♦A 1073 **4**10654 West Fast **4**Q 10 6 **+AK87** Ø874 72 0862 ♦QJ94 **♣**J732 +KQ98 South **♠**J932 VA QJ 1093 OK5 ÷Α

off his remaining trumps. You can see the end position - dummy came down to ♦ A 10 7 4, declarer to ♦ J 9 \$ K 5, and East still had to find a discard from AK QJ9. Forced to keep three diamonds (for otherwise South would have come to an overtrick), he had to part with a top spade. Now 49 from South established his jack for the 10th trick It would have been kinder, per-

haps, if West had found some inferior opening lead - at least saving his partner from the indignity of being squeezed...

SATELLITE AND CABLE

#### PICK OF THE DAY

DAVID CRONENBERG has always shock-horror films. A double-bill Dead Zone (10pm FilmFour) stars Christopher Walken (right) as a man with psychic powers. while The Brood (12mdn't) has Samantha Eggar as the mother of murderous offspring.

Pete Townshend has been one

of the past three decades. With The provoked controversy - as the Who, he was responsible for such furore that surrounded Crosh enduring classic singles as "My reminded us - and revelled in Generation and "Pinball Wizard". as well as landmark albums and of these are on show tonight. The films such as Quadrophenia and Tommy. And how many young guitarists have imitated his distinctive, windmilling style (to say nothing of his characteristic GBH on the speakers)? He is the subject of tonight's Ten of the Best (10nm VH-1). JAMES RAMPTON

of the most influential musicians

7.00 Count Duckula (74277), 7.30 The Chris Evans Breakfast Show (88068). 8.30 Hollywood Squares (47074). 9.00 Sally Jessy Raphael (57181), 10,00 The Guilty! (62432), 12.00 Jenny Jones (95109), 1.00 Mad about You (73548) 1.30 Jeopardy (75345). 2.00 Sally Jessy Raphael (37258). 3.00 Jenny Jones 157), 4.00 Guitty! (89074), 5.00 Star (96857), 4.00 Gurry: (corre). Trek: Voyager (455), 6.00 Americals Dumbest Criminals (1987), 6.30 Friends (5567), 7.00 The Simpsons (5884), 7.30 The Simpsons (4451). 8.00 Dating Hell (34068). 9.00 World's Most Shocking Moments (10432), 10.00 Cops (20819). **11.00** Friends (80703). **11.30** Star Trek: Voyager (56600). **12.30** The Commish (56778). **1.30 - 7.00** Long Play

SKY SPORTS 1 6.30 Futures in Sport (87277), 7.00 Sky Sports Centre (4891109), 735 World sting Federation Superstars (579890). Rate You're on Sky Sports (7582113) 5.00 Racing News (23083), 9.30 Aerobics - Oz Style (61797), 10.00 Spanish Football (79116). 11.00 Table Terris (11722). 12.00 Aerobics - Oz Style (10529). 12.30 What a Weekend (65513), 1,00 Figure Sketing (82722), 3,00 Ford Golf USA (87548), 5,00 Futbol Mundial (7838). 5.30 What a Weekand (3364), 6.00 Sky Sports Centre (46432), 7.00 Super League Leeds vs Wigen (566242), 9.30 Gillette World Sport

Special (58277). 10.00 Sky Sports Centre (62819). 11.00 Hold the Back Page (29677). 12.00 Sky Sports Centre (55814). 1.00 sting Federation Raw (40643). 3.00 Super League Leads vs Wigam (76339). 4.00 Hold the Back Page (94223). 5.00 - 6.00 Sky Sports Centre (14865).

SKY SPORTS 2 7.00 Aerobics - Oz Style (1866187). 7.30 Sky Scorts Centre (4627249), 7.45 Pacing (5107432), 8.45 Sky Sports Centre (9116277), 9.00 Trans World Sport 2244890). 10.00 Ford Golf USA (1085548). 12.00 loe Hockey (2303548), 2.30 Formuta Three - Season Preview (1980628), 3,00 What a Wasiend 59548191 3.30 Spanish Footbell (7973906), 4.30 Trans World Sport (4506123), 5.30 Gillette World Sport Special (7360664), 6.00 The Rugby Club (1084819). 7.00 Spanish Football (9180221). 8.00 May Power (23.661), 9.00 Ford Golf USA (2907278), 11.00 The Rugby Club (1791445). 12.00 Super League Leeds vs Wigen (8288204). 100 Ford Golf USA (9879755), 3.00 Sky Sports Centre (8303556), 4.00 The Rugby Cub

(1899440), 5.00 Moto-plus (8297952), 5.30 - 6.00 Extreme Saling (2796827). SKY SPORTS 3 11.30 Futures in Sport (92290074), 12.00 Transworld Sport (19305242). 1.00 Football League Raview (31480190), 1.30 Futbol Mundal (19496906), 2.00 Bobby Chariton's Football Scrapbook (23648277), 3.30

Snowboarding (14975364). 4.00 Max Power (92117797), 5.00 Watersports World (27950513), 6.00 Moto-plus (14971548), 6.30 Inside the Senior PGA Tour (14882900); 7.00 Figure Sketing (31478345). 9.00 Moto-plus (82219109); 9.30 Extreme Salling (19306971). 10.00 World Wre Federation Raw \$2293161), 12,00 Close(), EUROSPORT

2.30 Cart (11190), 9.00 Ski Jumping 95364). 10.45 Footbell (6712218). 1.00 Racing Line (\$1384), 2.00 Speed Sketting (73871), 4.00 Ski Jumping (43242). 5.00 Footbell (19890), 7.00 Offroad (53615), 8.00 And They Walked Away 67364, 9.00 Boxing (74800), 10.00 Bowling (57987). 11.00 Yoz Action (21155) 12.00-12.30 Snowboarding (84865). UK GOLD

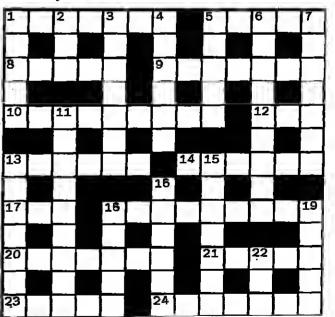
7.00 Crossroads (6574987), 7.30 Naioth bours (657565), 7.55 EastEnders (8448044), 8.30 The SE (4903708), 9.30 Prids and Prejudice (5008256), 10.30 Pho-da (3214567), 11.00 Dales (4038635). 11.55 Neighbours (75156068), 12.25 East-Enders (2963722), 1.00 Bugs (1935703), 2,00 Dates (7798426), 2,55 The Bis (9584835), 3,55 EastEnders (3300971). L30 Phoda (199277), 5.00 Al Creatures Great and Small (6982708). 6.00 Dynasty (1555567), 7.00 The Comedy Alternative: Ever Decreasing Circles (7792074), 7.40 The Cornedy Alternative: Dad's Army (4097797), 8.20 The Cornedy Alternative: The Brittas Empire (2391945), 9.00 The

(7022616). 10.00 The Jerry Springer Show (\$353190), 10.50 Maury Povich (\$769258), 11.40 The Heat Is On (23119180), 12.50 Rescue 911 (61007490), 130 Beyond Belief (39757816), 1.40 Maury Povich (4959451). 2.30 Special Babies (9112345), 3.00 Liv-

> (4521819). 4.40 Through the Keyhole 59863155), 5.20 The Heat is On (15835987), 5.40 Ready, Steady, Cook (8013987). 6.15 The Jerry Springer Show (1787083). 7.05 Rescue 911 (4625819). 7.35 Arimal Rescue (4803906). 8.00 LA Law 2367567), 9.00 Films: Romance Week This Matter of Marriage (2264426), 11.00 The Sex Files 1 (7398074), 12,00 Closs.

9.00 WCW Nitro on TNT (23101426), 11.35 WCW Thunder (83308819), 2.00 Sitting Target (1972) (13785827), 3.45 The Mask of Fu Manchu (1932) (21026579), 5.00 Close(). PARAMOUNT COMEDY CHANNEL 7.00 Janny (5615), 7.30 Grace under Fire (5155), 8.00 Ellen (4364), 8.30 Spin City (3141), 8.00 Drop the Dead Donkey (45600), 9.30 Whose Line is it Anywey? 56819), 10.00 The Publes (3235) 11.20 Gogs (398513), 11.30 The Larry Sanders Show (92155), 12.00 Late Night with David Letterman (53556), 1.00 Taxi (30778), 130 Frontine (44489), 2.00 Dr Katz (30827), 2.30 Tibs and Fibs (40880) 3.00 Nightstand (10914). 3.30 Abbott & Costello (33914), 4.00 Close,

### CONCISE CROSSWORD



DOWN

Idiot (3)

ACROSS Infidel (7) French painter 1840-1926 (5) Bird (5)

Small stones (7) 10 Conveyance for invalid (4,5) 12 Towards rear (naut.) 13 Seldom (6) 13 Set0om (6)
14 Digit (6)
17 Selt water (3)
18 Paper (9)
20 Inundated (7) 21 Requirements (5)

elating to sound (5)

Spiral (7)
Drink of the gods (6)
Grinding tooth (5)
Acute spasmodic pain (9) Cheat (7) 7 Chear (?)
11 Waterproof cover (9)
13 Dwells (?)
15 Artless young girl (?)
16 Positive poles (6)
18 Sorcery (5)
19 Arctic dog (5) 22 Before (3)

Weapon of mass destruction

Solution to yesterday's Concise Crossword: ACROSS: 1 Halve, 4 Vesting (Harvesting), 8 Tel Aoix, 9 Ratio, 10 Excel, 11 Cabinet, 13 Omen, 15 Troupe, 17 Egress, 20 Lawn, 22 Abducts, 34 Alpha, 26 Opera, 27 Alleron, 38 Rateful, 29 Drain, DOWN: 1 Hot seat, 2 Lilac, 3 Envelop, 4 Vivace, 5 Shrub, 6 Intense, 7 Ghost, 12 Anew, 14 Melt, 16 Oddment, 16 Gnaried, 19 Shannon, 21 Assail, 22 Alonf, 23 Chaff, 25 Parms.

### REGIONAL TELEVISION VARIATIONS

tact M misi.AMD As anct London excepts 6-30 Messine 630 (987).

As MCI Scott AND As MCI London except: 12.30 Link a Paint (Mouse and Mole)
Link a Paint (Mouse and Mole)
Link a Paint (Mouse and Mole)
Riceoses, 12.35 Oran agus Rannan
Riceoses, 12.35 Oran agus Rannan
Sarg and Rhyme) (2/268155). 12.40
Pating Post (Poesman Pai) (9/260161).
Link (Mather (8/7), 6/3.0 Pappring Scotler, Mather (8/7), 11.00 Pilm: Another 48 Hrs.
Sing), 12.30 Pain: Shue Chica (9/2048).
Link SBC News 24 (84935846).

The section except 6.30 less the year 10.30 le

and Weather (7068426), 12.55 and Street (8729971), 1.30 Home Mary (8562838), 1.55 The Jerry of Show (8776822), 3.10 ITV News Mark (856455), 3.15 Anglis News

and Weather (4563426), 5.30 Off the Beaten Track (890), 8.00 Anglia News (703), 11.20 Anglia News and Weather (787938), 14.30 Worderful You (88529), 12.30 ITV at the Reading Festival (82556), 1.30 ClubaVision (2496533), 2.15 The Huunted Fishtank (65310), 2.45 seaCluest DSV (8772914), 3.40 Trieha (2582662), 4.40 ITV Nightscreen (59113407), 5.00 Coronation Street (75730).

CENTRAL CENTRAL
As Cariton except: 12.20 Central
News and Weather (7068426). 12.55
Home and Away (4478180). 2.10 Weh
You Were Here..? (5638472). 5.30 Surprise Gardeners (880). 6.00 Central
News at Six (703). 11.20 Central News
and Weather (787838). 11.30 Late factle (464600). 3.55 Jobfinder (5313117).
5.20 Asian Eye (\$108310).

HTY WALES As Cartton except 10.30 This Morning (4405616). 12.35 HTV News (4983258). 12.55 Wish You Ware Here...? (9729971). 1.30 Home and Away (972997), 1-30 Home and Away (3552638), 1-35 The Jerry Springer Show (9776822), 3:40 ITV News Head-lines (456455), 3:15 HTV News (4563425), 5:30 Outz Challenge (890).

7

6.00 HTV News (703), 11.20 HTV News (787838), 11.30 Wonderful You (59529), 12.30 ITV at the Reading Festival (92559), 1.30 Cubalvision (2496533), 2.15 The Haunted Fishtank (55310), 2.45 sea@uest DSV (8172914), 3.40 Trisha (2582622), 4.40 ITV Nightscreen (5913407), 5.00 Coronation St (75730).

HTV WEST As HTV Wales: 12.55 Getaways (9729971), 5.30 Sportsweek (890). MERIDIAN

MERIDIAN
As Carlton except: 10.30 This
Morning (44405616). 12.15 Meridan
News and Weather (4983258). 12.55
Shortland Street (9729971). L30 Home
and Away (35512938). 1.55 The Jarry
Springer Show (9775822). 3.10 ITV
News Headlines (4564155). 3.15 Meridan
News and Weather (4583426). 5.00
Home and Away (1426). 5.26 The Ustings (3115172). 5.30 Streeties (890).
6.00 Meridian Tonight (703). 11.20
Meridian News and Weather (787838).
11.30 Wonderful You (69529). 12.30
ITV at the Raading Festival (92558). TV at the Reading Festival (92555). 1.30 ClubaVision (2495533), 2.35 The Haunted Fishtank (65310), 2.45 Haunted Fishtank (65310). 2.45 582Quest DSV (8172914). 3.40 Trisha

(2582682), 4.40 ITV Nightscreen (59113407), 5.00 Preescreen (75730),

WESTCOUNTRY
As Cariton except: 10.30 This
Morning (44405615): 12.15 Westcountry
News (493258): 12.27 librarisations
(7149345): 12.55 Westcountry
Lunchtime Live (447316): 3.40 ITV
News Headlines (456456): 5.30 Westcountry News (4563426): 5.30 Westcountry Westernd (890): 6.90
Westcountry Live (703): 11.20 Westcountry News (787836): 11.30 Firm:
Caddyshack II (79528): 1.20 Generations (1978186): 1.30 ClubeVision
(2496333): 2.45 The Haurited Fisitiank
(65310): 2.45 seeQuest DSV (6772914):
3.40 Trisha (2582662): 4.40 ITV
Nightscreen (69713407): 5.00 Coronation Street (75730): WESTCOUNTRY

As Cartion except: 10.30 This Mon-ing (4405616), 12.15 Calendar News and Weather (4993258), 12.30 News; Weather 4465161) 12.55 Home and Ave 147380, 210 Emmerdale (6384722). 5.30 Tonight (990), 6.00 Calendar (703). 1120 Calendar News and Weather 11.20 Celendar News and Weather (787838), 11.30 Wonderful You (464600).

TYNE TEES As Yorkshire except: 12.15 North East News and Weather (498255), 5.30 North East Tonight (79722), 11.20 North East News and Weather (787858).

S4C
As Channel 4 except: 10,45 Cynhadiedd y Ceidwadwyr (2018815), 12,45 Pa Newydd? (72159305), 1,00 Planed Plant (5785884), 1,30 Enter the Maths 2006 (5482835), 1,45 The Technology Programme (5481890), 2,00 To Be Announced (77189835), 4,30 Ricklake (57060857), 5,00 Planed Plant (90872513), 5,30 Countdown (5708457), 6,00 Newyddion (5784587), 6,00 Newyddion (5784587), 6,00 Newyddion (5706167), 8,30 Y Chyb Rygbi (9005342), 9,30 Ramssy's Bolling Point (25689426), 10,00 Brookside (7250890), 10,35 Prasier (3567503), 11,05 So Graham Norton (83699277), 11,45 TFI Friday (85080819), 12,50 4 Later: Pub (238395759), 130 4 Later: Flave (5168487), 1,45 4 Later: The Mod Squad (90452049), 2,45 4 Later: Vide (5468942049), 2,45 4 Later: Vide Squad (90452049), 2.45 4 Later: Vic (36628681), 3.10 Film: The Brides of

St. 75. (Oth charge for virtual asymptotic in nature) a manuse receive rector (physicis with the first militage/condition if the vehicle is returned at the end of the finance agreement. Written quotations

24 Stage set (7)

or mileage/condition if the verticle is neturned at the end of the finance receipt fee of £70, payable with the first

Charles Pily

# ROBERT HANKS

TELEVISION REVIEW

ghamshire constabulary, year; thair report d, 0,000 actual crimes

were logged as "minor were logged as "minor uncidents"; meanwhile, 80 robberies in Nottingham, listed as cleared up, were simply "fictillous"; so were a thousand cases of shoplifting. Notts police claimed a clear-up ratio of 18.3 per cent for rape, which Bedfordshire police and wns impossible; and apparently one division claimed to have solved twice as many sexual assaults as had acturally sexual assaults as had acturally

MR ANO MRB WITH JULIAN CLARY (10pm ITV, nght) The much-loved game show, Mr and Mrs, in which married couples were tested on their knowledge of each other; is resurrected with Julian Clary in the Derek Batey role. Ont go the browns and oranges of Border Television's 1970s set - and in come the signifiar pinks and blues of camp TV. Actually, Clary works well within the confines of a "family" game show, as anyone who remembers ITV's Trick or Treat can testify. Obviously, thare's a heavy craphassis on double entendres ("I give and I give - I a heavy craphassis on double entendres ("I give and I give - I

BMACK THE PONY (9.30pm C4, right) A pleasingly non-panchline-driven comedy sketch show with roots in Pythonesque aurvealism and The Day Todny's cod realis The three performers, who also wrote most of the materinappen to be women – Frona Alien from Goodness Gracine, Doon Macklehan from The Day Today and Brass Ey and Sally Phillips, the saucy receptionist from I'n Alan Partridge. Refreshingly, they refrain from recycling stockharacters, which may count against the programme in the characters, which may count against the programme in the contracters.

11.00 Change That (S) (3956838). 11.26 Can't Cook. Won't Cook (S) (T) (3853797) 11.56 News: Regiunat News: Whathst (T) (7804635). 12.00 Call My Bluff (S) (26500). 12.30 Top Tip Challengs (R) (S) (4470093). 12.56 Tha Wcather Show (S) (T) (53514093). 1.00 Nows: Weather (T) (31548). 1.30 Regional News and Weather (59370068). 1.40 Neighbours (S) (T) (35410426). 2.05 Ironsida (R) (5624971). 2.55 Through tha Kayhole (R) (S) (T) (5811726).

B.35 Neighbours. Lou could be out of the bequest competition, whatever that is (132529).

**30** Nawej Wsether (T) (636)

6.30 Regional News. And weather (T) (987).

7.30 Top of the Pops. Boyzona's Comic Railst aingla apsinda a socond weak st Number One. They're joined by Steps, Roxetta, Travia and REM (S) (T) (971).

**Ground Force.** A changa for this gardsn-makeover programme, as it revisits a garden that the team renovated a few years back to sea how it's faring now (S) (T) (5242). Builders. Continuing the brickle docu-soap. The in greal is being experienced by Jonethan Dixon, as concrete lorries fall to turn up (S) (T) (7277).

8.00 News| Regional News; Weether (T) (2513).

Parkineon. Michasi Parkinson maata Jack Dee. Wili ha be abla to plarce the comadients daadpan front? (S) (T) (74877).

12.00 C10103 Blue Chips (William Friadkin 1894 US).
Nick Notes plays the basketball coach having his old-feathlonad values put to the test by big money. See Film of the Day, below (Followed by Weathar) (T) (137556).
1.45 Joins BBC News 24 (45303933). To 7am.

GAME SHOW OF THE DAY

Gerdeners' World. Gay Search bagina a stap-by-atap guida to garden dasign, whita Ptopa Greenwood offere advica on sowing vegetabla saads (S) (T) (5819).

9.30 B.00 Murder Most Horrid. Herriet Snellgrove (Dawn Franch) has elways draumt of being arrested. But would she resort to murder in order to live out her fantasy? (S) (T) (7105).

5.00 Britein's Wortrains, e charity to tell when per

10.00 EHITIMA Mr camp ona upd Show of tha Da

r end Mrs with Julien Clery. The dates the encient game show. See Game Day, below (T) (22797).

10.30 Pleasure Ist dsprsssing do Jamsican reso adult resort").

Isfend. Kethy Burka narrates this vagualy documentary about holidaymakars at the esort of Hadonism II ("the world's sexiast"). As frightful as it sounds (1) (32665).

Newel Weether (T) (892109).

lght (787838). 11.30 Nightifa (464800).

Newenight. With Kirety Wark (T) (148155).

BBC2

Children's BBC: Paga (R) (735516), 7.05
Talblublikes (S) (4431136) 7.30 Snorks (8277529), 7.50
Short Change (S) (T) (3205600) 5.20 Taz-Mania (S) (5965690; 8.40 Polka Dot Shorts (1921838), 8.50 Pingu (R) (1910722) 8.00 Storytime (S) (7549838), 9.10 Sce You. Saa Me (S) (4191513), 8.30 Numbertime (S) 18660819; 5.45 Come Outsida (S) (8658074), 10.00
Teletubbies (S) (18109), 10.30 Magamaths (S) (T) (142722), 11.10 (1419258), 10.80 Look and Raad (S) (T) (1427722), 11.10 Landmarka (S) (T) (3115432), 11.30 English Fita: Death of s Salasman (S) (T) (4548), 12.00 Scena (S) (27242).

2.10 Awash with Colour (S) (56291058). 2.40 News:
Regional Nawa; Weather (T) (318258). 2.45 Match of
Their Day (S) (T) (4588432). 3.25 News; Regional News;
Weather (T) (4565884). 3.30 The Village (8385676). 3.55
Keya (S) (9383635). 4.25 Ready, Steady, Cook (S) (T) (6072180). 4.55 Eather (S) (T) (5057161).

B.30 Whose House? Chris Kally and Jannia Bond try to gueas houses' calabrity owners (S) (364).

B.00 The Simpsons. The Simpsons find Mr Burns's long-lost childhood toddy besr (R) (S) (T) (448631).

B.45 Robot Wers - the Best of Robot Wars. This hugely popular (in BBC2 terms) series continues to be drogged out by a chemical desperate to hold on to the viewers (S) (135345).

B.00 Trust Me, I'm a Doctor. How to cute a hangover, and how pregnent women can protect themselves from toxoplasmosis (S) (T) (3884).

10,00 The Young Ones. Madness is the gusst band in this week's slice of early 1980a snarchy. Nell catches a cold (R) (T) (28971).

12.15 Bertoil in I1aly. Jamea Naughtta introducsa a concerl given lest summar by Italian mezzo-sopreno Cacilia Bartoil in Vicanza (S) (737198).

Later with Joole Holland. With Ultra Nate, Torl Amos, the Jeaus and Mary Chein, Ultrasound and Roachford (Then Weatherview) (3627881). To 2.55em.

8.25 The Simpsona. Apu offers the Simpsone his sorvices as a valet after ha is tirod from the Kwick-E-Mort (1816t)

7.45 Electric Circus. Showbizzz (S) (T) (492172).
7.30 Country House. On, here we go. Lady Trivistock reveals her belief in the mystic power of crystats (S) (T) (513).

Birthe, Merriegee end Deeths. Another chance the sea the concluding apisode of Tony Grounds' drema. The friends try to the up some loose ands (R) (479221). 12.35 TIM Bhe After years o 11.00 ITV Nightly

2.15 Club@VIs (12041914). ( 3.55 Trisha To 5.30am.

3.20 Childran's I Timbuctoo (59 (9609703). 3.4 It Up (T) (617)

5.00 Home and Awey (S) (T) (1428).

8.00 London Tonight. Regional news updata for tha capital and the South-East (T) (703).

7.00 Emmerdele Chris dsclare: Scott and Roy squara up over Kelly, and war on Saan Raynolda (S) (T) (7880).

7.30 Coronation Street. Nick confides his worries to Miranda, while Gary and Judy's night out falls flat (S) (T) (567).

5.00 Perking Wa continues with have fisred up B.30 Deys like These. Flop attempt to anglicisa an American sitcom. A ralaxad family Sunday is shettered by the arrival of Ron's mother-in-lew (S) (T) (2345). rs. ITV's fascination with all types of raganatorias of arguments (and worse) that over parking spaces (S) (T) (3838).

vrst Cheats. Featuring fare dodging on y swindle, how to cheat at cards, and how sopta sra lying (T) (9165). 8.00 Fri

8.30 19:10183 Smeck the Pony. New series of comedy sketches from Flona Allan, Doon Mackichen and Sally Philips. Sea Comedy of the Day, balow (S) (T) (30256).

10.30 Bo Grehem Norton (T) (881109).

11.10 King of the Hill (429797), 11.40 TFI Friday (832567), 12.45 Pulp (1203407), 1.00 Flave (9068488), 1.38 The Mod Squed (9078136), 2.35 Vids (8523852),

COMEDY OF THE DAY

Lunchtima Ne Today (T) (44: (T) (4045074). 2.40 Wheet ) (1) (8863722). 10.30 This Morning (T) 12.20 Your Shout (7088425). 12.30 ITV News; Waathar (T) (4485161). 12.58 London (4473180). 1.25 Tha Jarry Springar Show (S) (74). 2.10 Homa and Away (S) (T) (56384722). et of Fortuna (S) (T) (3916190).

340 TV News H feedtinee (T) (5928074).

ITV: Mopatop's Shop (4857819). 3.30 1994180). 3.35 Animal Storiaa (R) (S) .4B Glggly Bitzl (T) (9629587). 4.00 Pump '1451). 4.35 Comin' Atcha (S) (T) (3942567).

B.30 Dresm Ticket. Mosatc and candle-making workshops, the culture of South Korea, and an Insider's guide to Valencia (890).

Nowel Weether (T) (156)

7.55 Bodyscapes. Dosa mescara stop ayelashas from performing thair protactive function? (T) (257256).

B.30 Brookside. Jimmy grief, yet again (S) (T) (8867). **B.00 Treding Up.** New game show in which contestants exchange their cars for smarter models. But first they have to match present cars with their owners (T) (480).

Friends. Rachal and Monica squabble over two handsoma doctors, while Ross pondars his impanding fatharhood with his own dad (R) (S) (T) (1451).

10.00 Frester. Frasiar is arrested after giving a lift to a prostitute (S) (T) (26567).

3.00 IIIM The Brides of Fu Manchu (Don Sharp 1966 US). Dr Fu Manchu (Christophar Lea) has imprisoned 12 women as part of his evil plan to gain world domination. How doss that work then? (3523t0).

ttered Dreeme (Robert tscove 1990 US). abuse, the wife of e top Washington ons up the strength to leave htm. Lindsey (S) (T) (293846).

56), 3.00 Box Offica America (R) launisd Fishtank (12044001). 4.35 The Pretenders: No Turn Left Unatoned (R) (9983666). To 5.35am.

## Carlton

7.00 The Big Breakfast (S) (4971)

hannel 4

hannel 5

THE FRIDAY REVIEW The Independent 19 March 1999

(S) (T) (8825451). 7.30 Milkshake! (S) (2357277). 7.35 Wimzis S House (R) (4336906). 8.00 Havakezoo (R) (S) (2559529). 8.30 Dappledown Farm (R) (S) (2478600). 8.00 Nancy Lam (R) (S) (T) (2585180). 8.27 Russet Grant's Postcards (418548). 8.30 The Oprah Winfrey Show (R) (8485267). 10.20 Sunset Baach (339889). 11.10 Lsaza (S) (9614859). 12.00 S Naws at Noon (S) (T) (2552616). 12.30 Family Affairs (S) (T) (180838). 1.30 The Bold end the Beautiful (S) (T) (8824722). 1.30 The Roseanna Show (S) (1939109). 2.00 100 Per Cant Gold (S) (9818838). 2.30 Good Afternoon (S) (1343426).

11.30 Powerhouse (9816). 12.00 Sassme Straat (25836). 12.30 Bewitchsd (R) (T) (43722). 1.00 Pet Rascua (S) (T) (24256). 1.30 Tha Thrae Stoogas (R) (83874123). B.00 Chennel 4 Schools: Off Limits (4023203). B.25 Schools at Work (8701432). B.30 Eurakal (8655987). B.45 Stop, Look, Listan (8570242). 10.00 The Complete Cosmos (5971258). 10.10 TVM (9841432). 10.25 1795 and After (8880567). 10.45 Enter the Maths Zons (9010971). 11.00 The Tachnology Programms (3984600). 11.18 Staga One (3070451). 1.50

Ladd plays a Yank soldiar with a guilty past, who comas to Britain posing as a Canadian to join the Spacial Servicas. Fairly atraightforward and exciting, with a characterful supporting cast which includes Harry Andrews and Donald Houston (1) (75194987). 3.30 IIII A Changa of Piece (Dorna Daltch 1994 US/Can/Gar). A succassful modal parsuadas h bookish twin sister to changa places with her on the Peris catwelks. Andrea Roth takes both rolas. Tha director, Dorna Daltch, mads that excallent laablen romance, Deeart Hearts. Presumably, this gig paid har mortgaga (5940203).

Collectors' Lot (T) (181). 4.00 Fifteen to One (R) (S) (T) (628). 4.30 Countdown (S) (T) (3941838). 4.55 Ricki Laka (S) (T) (5059529). 5.30 Pet Rescua (S) (T) (432). 5.20

B.00 TFI Friday. Mertine McCutcheon (aka Tiffany, as was, in EastEndere) kicke oif her pop carear with a chat. She's joined by Aticia Silverstone. Music comas from Tha Brian Satzar Orchestra, Reaf and Desrea (S) (55513).

**B.00** 

5 News Early Including First on Five (S) (T) (2152819).

**5 News** (S) (T) (74797877). **5.2B** Russall Grent's Postcards (75147118). **5.30** 100 Per Cant (S) (2155908).

Family Affeirs. What has happened batwean Gabby and Pete? I've no idea aither (S) (T) (2063971).

7.00 Chennel 4 News Weather. Including headlines et 7.30pm (S) (T) (357546).

7.00 Knight Rider. David Haasalhoff is talking to his cell again (9715426).

7.30

**Neture of Oz.** Maet the laugh-a-minute kookeburra of Austrelia. Quite a nifty angler se well, apparently (5) (T) (2069155).

B.00

Was ft Good for You? Differing expariances of Catsionia, Spsin (S) (9898074).

8.30 Nick's Quest. Nick Baker visits Playe Grande in Costa Rica, where the world's largest reptiles come ashore to lay their eggs (S) (T) (9817109).

8.00 IIIM Evidence of Love (Staphen Gyllanhaal 1980 US). Barbera Hershey plays Candy Morrison, an apparently parfect mambar of her small Texas

10.50 Lexx - the Dark Zone Btorles (R) (S) (7251141).

11.50 IIIM - Mailbu Nights (Sarga Rodnunsky 1998 US).
Sounds like soft porn to you? You'd ba right (8042285). 1.30 **ISLM** Follow the Fleat (Merk Sandrich 1938 US). Buoyent Astaira and Rogere musical – the one featuring "Let's Face the Music and Danca" (6065759).

IIIM The Texee Rengers Ride Agein (1940). Western sterring John Howard (82398469). To 4.40am

TELEVISION GUIDE BY GERARD GILBERT



BLUE CHIPS (12mdn't BBC't, right) Continuing a sesson of films linked to the upcoming Oscars, this is the second in a double bill starring Nick Nolte, who is up for an Academy Award this year for his part in Paul Schrader's Afficition. This film, however, dates from 1884, and is directed by William "The Exorcist" Friedkin from a script by sports-movia specialist Ron Shelton (Bnill Durham, White Men Con't Jump, Tin Cup). Nolte is the old-fashloned basketball coach at an American university who compromises his values to find a winning team. A host of real basketball players help out, and







<u>=</u>